SELECT

LETTERS

TO THE

Prince of ORANGE

(now King of E[illegible])

King Charles [illegible]

AND THE

Earl of [illegible]STON.

[illegible]

[illegible] is added [illegible]TY upon the Present Settlement of *Ireland*.

[illegible] by Sir *William Temple*, [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Letters.

LONDON,

[illegible], at the [illegible]

[illegible]yard, MDCCL.

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LETTERS

TO THE

PRINCE OF ORANGE

AND

KING CHARLES THE II.

The BOOKSELLER to the

READER.

THE following *Letters* and the *Eſſay* will need no other Recommendation, than the giving ſufficient Proof that Sir *William Temple* wrote them.

Of this the Manuſcripts from whence this Book is carefully printed, gives the cleareſt Demonſtration in the World; being every word written by Sir *William*'s own Hand: And any Gentleman may Command a ſight of them, who has the Curioſity to look them over for his better Satisfaction.

Sir

READER.

THE following Letter and the Essay will need no other Recommendation, than the giving sufficient Proof that Sir William Temple wrote them. Of this the Manuscripts from whence this Book is carefully printed, gives the clearest Demonstration in the World; being every word written by Sir William's own Hand: And any Gentleman may Command a Sight of them, who has the Curiosity to look them over for his better Satisfaction.

Sir *William Temple's*

LETTERS, &c.

Antwerp, July 3. 1665.

My Lord,

Upon the 4th. Instant I arriv'd at [illegible] with the Baron *Wreden*, Minister of [illegible] where I found all the Inns in *Ostend* filled with Officers: The Bishop of *Munster* desired I would rest that Night, and that my Audience might be early next Morning; but it was remitted from one hour to another, till late at Night, which the Baron *Wreden* assured me happen'd by the great croud of Officers, who that day were to receive dispatches for the Levies they were making.

I was brought to the Bishop of *Munster* alone in his Cabinet; where, after I had said what I thought most proper, according to my Instructions, he told me that he thought himself much Honoured by this Alliance which the King had made with his Servant; That he desired the King would esteem him as one of his Ministers in this Affair, that he would perform all points of the Treaty with Truth, Punctuality, and like a Gentleman.

That he had formerly been with the Duke of *Neuburg* and Duke of *Newburg* again, but found them so cold,

that he durst not so much as give them notice of the Treaty, for fear it should be that way discover'd to *France* or *Holland*.

That in case the Accord (which he, the Bishop of *Munster*, had much labour'd in) between the Two Dukes should be perfected, he doubted not a Leagne of all hands upon this occasion, and would engage for their Safety, without dependance; but the *French* by their power on the Duke of *Newburgh* had hindred it, that when the Duke of *Newburgh* rely'd on the *French*, the Duke of *Brandenburgh* would not offend the *Hollanders*.

That nothing so much imported at present as Secrecy, for which reason he had entertain'd the offer of a Treaty made him by the *Dutch* two days before my arrival, with design of according all differences between them. That he answered, he was very willing, and had taken time to make his demands; that by this amusement, he was resolv'd to have his revenge, by falling upon them, as they did last year upon him, in the very time of Treaty.

For the Forces he expected, and the time of taking the Field, he told me that he had 8000 ready; that he had accorded with one *Gerge* to raise six Foot Regiments, and three Horse Regiments about *Bremen*; that he had six Regiments raising in the country of *Juliers* and *Cologne*; besides all he intended to Levy in his own Country, and 2000 he was promis'd from the Bishop of [illegible], and 2000 from the Duke of *Lunenburg*. [illegible] rels are accorded, that the Monies being delay'd [illegible] could not take the Field till the [illegible] And it will then also depend upon the [illegible] ment being made in time, for before [illegible] it will be impossible for him to [illegible]

That

That he was already out about Three Hundred Thousand Dollers, and engag'd for much more, and desired to know frankly, whether he might rely upon the second Payment at the time he ne: I found him tender in this Point, and so resolv'd to pinch him no more, and told him all I had said to press him to take the Field by the time the second Payment should be ready, proceeded only from my own Zeal to the King's Service, and desire to see some sudden Diversion given, tho' it begun with something shorter Forces than was agreed; but from the King I had Commission to assure him that all parts of the Treaty, and that among them, should be exactly perform'd.

He said it would be his certain ruin to take the Field with less than 26000. That the good credit of all his Neighbours depended upon his first Success; that he was resolv'd to make Two Attempts at the same time, and one should be upon *Hesse*, where he had already laid his Design; that he doubted not within five Months of a good Peace upon the King's own Terms.

After this, the Baron of *Wreden* came in and under the third at Supper, so that I was with the Elector of *Saxony* about four Hours that Night, the next Morning I was sent for about Eight a Clock; he then desir'd I would deal frankly with him (as he said, and always should do with me) and tell him whether I had any Instructions to stop the second Payment, till he should be in the Field, for he protested without that he was not able to draw his Forces together; that he was confident the third Payment should not come till he was in Action; he was so earnest upon this point that he left no room to doubt of it, he would be contented to lose all he was out already, and make the best Terms he could

with the States of *Holland*, for without it 'twas impossible for him to succeed, and that he should only ruin himself, without doing the King any Service. I thought fit to assure him, there was not the least doubt of it. And to press him upon that Confidence to give all the vigour and speed he could to his Levies, which he thereupon assured me he would do.

He desired me not to return from *Flanders* till I could bring the Second Payment with me, both because nothing could be done before that came, and besides the *Hollanders* were so jealous, and found so many Occasions of sending to his Court, that I could not be there without discovery; that when I should bring the Second Payment he should be so ready as not much to fear it, yet still he must avoid giving them any just ground to quarrel, tho' he could not avoid giving them suspicions. That by his Agent at *Brussels*, he would give me notice of all that occurr'd in the mean time, and receive any Commands I should have for him from the King by Expresses, for there was no other safe way of Intelligence.

He desired me to kiss the King's Hand on his part, and assure the King, that he would perform all he had undertaken, like a Man of Plainness, and Truth, and Honour; and lay all that touch'd the King to heart, like one of his own Ministers.

After this I took my leave, having exchang'd the Ratification of the Treaty, and seen the Acquittance for the Mony.

I find the Bishop of *Munster* to be a Man of about Fifty Five Years Old, of very firm Body and Health, of slow and soft Speech, but great Heart and Thought; he sleeps little, is Temperate, rather loves to Hear than Talk much; is taken up with nothing

but

but his Books; thinks and disposes all himself; I should guess him to be a Man very firm and steddy in all his Resolutions, True and Sincere, and of great Honour, of sound natural Sence; and tho' he be undertaking, yet I think not rashly, but rather moved by a warmth of Heart than Head; he seems bent to revenge upon the *Hollanders* as much as to greaten himself; he is in perfect Confidence with the Elector of *Ments*, to whom alone he has given part of the Treaty; he has great Intelligence in all parts, and I find is in very general great esteem among the *Germans*. I see no other way the King has, to make so sudden and good an end of the War as this, nor that he runs any other venture in it, than of his Money, nor more of that, than a few Ships cost him in a Month: Therefore considering that undertaking was at first resolv'd on, and reckoning the first Payment as already made, I think it will be absolutely necessary to dispatch the Second Payment, with all the confidence that can be; and if it may be rather before the time it self, which is the end of the Month, it will produce the greater effect.

After I have dispatch'd the first at *Brussels*, I shall return hither, and attend the King's Commands, upon the receipt of this Letter, which with any from your Lordship, I desire may still be directed to Mr. *Bedingfield* at *Brussels*.

I had almost forgot to tell your Lordship, that immediately after my last from *Brussels*, I receiv'd your Lordship's of *July* from *Hampton-Court*.

I should never have resolv'd to write this Letter, but that I consider'd no pains of the Cypher belong'd to your Lordship. I thought a large account was necessary for once, tho' with never so much trouble

to my self: I'm sure my Head akes as much at this time as your Lordship's ever did; 'tis all I can ever pretend to be like you in, unless the Faith wherewith you serve his Majesty, and the heartiness wherewith you oblige your Friend: To imitate your Lordship in these Two Qualities, shall ever be the Ambition of

Yours, &c.

Brussels, Aug. 11. 1665.

My Lord,

Out of Cypher.

HAving seen the First Payment made, and the Second begun, and taken Order that it should go on without me, I left *Antwerp* yesterday, and the Alderman there, tho' with a Heart much fallen at the instant I came away, by Letters just then received of his chief Cashier's death, and of his Cash growing low by the failing of the Farmers of the Customs in the appointed Payments; at a time when he is forced to draw all he can possible upon it for supply of the Service here: To give him his due, he is the most bent upon serving His Majesty in this affair that can be, but unless he be supplyed, not only his, but His Majesty's Credit will suffer, which is very great here, upon the report of the Fleet, and so great Sums as the Reports are flew over.

For the Fruits of this Charge, I had rather my Care and Endeavours should be seen by the Effects, than believed upon my word. I have not fail'd of writing to the Bishop of *Munster* by all occasions, and am assured by the Baron of *Wreden*, newly arrived

rived at *Bruſſels*, that he has already a flying Camp of 6000. Men, that all his Forces are drawing down together, and will be in a Body and acting before this Month ends.

The *French* King has already ſent the Biſhop of *Munſter* a Letter made up of Flattery, Intreaties and Threats, with offer of all his Pretences from the *Hollander*, and the charge of all his Levies: The Biſhop in anſwer has ſent an Ambaſſador to the *French* King, repreſenting his Wrongs, and deſiring aid of him to recover and revenge them.

In the mean time, Three Thouſand Six Hundred *French* are come in Boats unarm'd to re-inforce the *Dutch* Garriſons, and more expected. But the Biſhop of *Munſter* fears nothing from any beſides the *Swede*, whom if the *French* ſhould be able to Arm at his back, he would be much endangered, but he hopes His Majeſty will take care to prevent this.

I am, &c.

Bruſſels, 14. Aug. *S. N.* 1665.

My Lord,

SInce your Lordſhip's laſt by the Expreſs, I have received none, which is ſome trouble to me, becauſe I had rather much purſue any direct Orders that ſhall be given me, than be left to my own Government, of which having upon theſe occaſions had but little experience, I have no reaſon to have much opinion.

Out of Cypher.

At the writing my laſt from hence of the 11th inſtant, I reſolved ſuddenly to leave this place, and begin my Journey to *Munſter* to blow the Coal

there, finding by the Baron of *Wreden* there was already some Fire in it. Since that time the Duke of *Bonneville* knowing from the Baron of *Wreden* and the Bishop of *Munster*'s Agent of my being here, has engaged me into much Discourse, of which some part may be worth your knowledge.

Upon the end of the last Treaty the Bishop of *Munster* had sent the Duke of *Bonneville* a *Carte blanche*, inviting him to the Command of his Army, which the Duke accepted upon condition of leave from the Marquis *Roderigo*, who being acquainted with the affair, assured him, there should be no difficulty in it.

About a Week since, the Forces beginning to draw together, the Bishop of *Munster* sends the Baron of *Wreden* to the Marquis to desire his leave for the Dukes present repair to him; the Marquis now protests he cannot give it till a return of what he has written into *Spain* about it; but all this with much circumstance. The *Holland* Ambassadour here makes so great a noise of the Duke of *Bonneville*'s going, and the great threats of the *French* at the Bishop of *Munster*'s attempts, that he fears he should presently have them both upon his back if he gives any publick countenance to either.

That if His Majesty would sign the Treaty with *Spain*, they would then throw off their Mask and let both *France* and *Holland* see they feared them not; but upon the first Occasion be ready to declare a War, in which the Emperor would come in for his part, and fall in with 25000. Men for the recovery of *Alsace*. That he the Marquis wondred at His Majesty's delay in ending the Treaty which was the same with that of the last King: And for the business of *Portugal*, a Truce would be accepted; and for that of *Tangier* and *Jamaica*, the King of *Spain* was con-

tent

tent it should be referred to Commissioners, and till they agreed all would rest in the present state which might be as long as His Majesty pleased: That in short, till the finishing of this League with *England*, it would be unsafe to give the least publick countenance to the Bishop of *Munster*, but all private they might be sure of. That his, the Marquis's, present Business was, to raise all the jealousie he could in the States of *Holland* of the *French*, and to that purpose he had done much already, and he thought with good success; that he had great credit with the *Holland* Ambassador here at *Brussels*, and was resolv'd to offer the King of *Spain*'s Mediation between the Bishop of *Munster* and States of *Holland*, which he would advise the Bishop of *Munster* by the Baron of *Wreden* to accept, but in the mean time to proceed vigorously with his designs.

Further, The Marquis hearing from the Duke of *Bonneville* of my being here, and of his knowing me, desired him to ask me if I had any Commission to speak with him; or if not, whether I had any mind to do it of my self, which he should be glad of.

All this the Duke of *Bonneville* told me yesterday, and in Answer, I said I had no Commission at all to the Marquis; that as a private Person I was well enough content to wait upon him if he thought fit.

The Duke of *Bonneville*'s Father told me that by a Kinsman of Monsieur *Fouquet*'s, he is assured, That the *French* King is at this time so far from intending an open breach with *England*, that there is nothing he fears more than that it should happen this year. That he has designs of amassing a great Treasure, which may enable him to bring an Army of Forty Thousand Men into the Field, but that at present he has very little Money, and yet the Taxes are

raised

rais'd beyond Nine Millions, and the People so dispos'd to a revolt, that he is confident if His Majesty would but find some way to assure them of his Protection, and of reducing their Taxes, they would certainly fall under the Obedience of *England*; or at least begin a revolt most formidable to *France*, in which the *Hugonots* would fall in for their share, and many other Male-contents. That at present the Poor, bear no ill thought, not above two or three Thousand, and safe only in their Woods, give much trouble to the *French* Court, and fears of a greater Flame.

The Baron of *Wreden* tells me we have no hopes of the Duke of *Brandenburgh*, and less of the Duke of *Newburgh* than before.

I see His Majesty's Money imployed daily amongst brave Officers here, and am assur'd from all hands the *Dutch* were never in so great fears or fright, at least, till the News of *de Ruyter's* arrival, which the Town here is full of, and I fear upon too much ground. My Letter, I fear, is past the Patience of your Servants, whether it be past your Lordship's or no

I am, &c.

Hagus, Feb. 3. *N. S.* 1668.

My Lord,

I Have received two long dispatches from your Lordship of the 23d. by several hands, and except it were absent five or six Lines out of Cypher in them, am not able word the Letter for them both, and know no help for the Words but to say I am such a Dunce, and People will not believe it, all I can

can ſay in my defence is, That *Sir Samuel Morland* was preſſing upon me but one half hour at moſt, juſt before I came away, when my Head was full both of my Diſpatches newly ended, and the diſpoſal of my Journey. He promiſed to ſend me the Papers and directions before I went, and I to practiſe them at my leaſure. His part was omitted, and thereupon mine was never thought on, ſince I came away without either Rules or Practice. The next entertainment I had, was ſuch a Storm, as for three Hours made all the Mariners forget their Meat and their Drink: and after my landing, I may be allow'd to ſay, I had for Ten Days at leaſt, as hard a pinch of Buſineſs as perhaps ever fell to an idle Man's ſhare; and which might be excus'd for taking up all my Thoughts, eſpecially being ſubject to the interruption of a Hundred neceſſary Ceremonies beſides. If this will not ſerve to excuſe my ſenceleſneſs in this point, I know not what more to ſay, unleſs it be, That God Almighty has given it to other Men to make Cyphers and to ſee, but to me only to walk upon plain Ground and to read plain Hands, or plain Cyphers at moſt. But let my fault be what it will, I am ſure I have done Penance enough for it, and ſpent five or ſix ſuch Hours about it, that I had rather ſpend at any time in the Coal Mines, eſpecially ending them without the leaſt ſucceſs, which is the relief of all Cares and Pains.

I hope this diſappointment will not have imported much in my Buſineſs, ſince what I received was, I ſuppoſe, intended me by your Lordſhip for my conduct in purſuit of a Buſineſs, which by my good Fortune proved to be concluded before it came. The only circumſtance I apprehended ill in it, I have likewiſe paſſed well over; which was the hazard of

my

my Credit with Monsieur de Witt, who received his Packet while I was with him, and gave me one that was enclosed in it. When I saw it all in that Cypher, I presently shewed it him, and the convincing Papers that came with it, and the Key, telling him I doubted I should never cast the Figure right, being so new and unpractised in it. He would not believe I could fail, at least, with Pains, and desired me to go about it, saying, he was impatient to know His Majesty's Answer about inserting the Provisional Articles, which could only be known by this dispatch, since my next would bear date after the arrival of the Treaty in *England*; and thereupon put me in mind of keeping my Promise with them, which I assured him of. I went home, and after six Hours spent in vain, return'd to him again at Ten that Night, and told him; I came to lose all the Credit I had gain'd with him, by telling him a thing I knew very well he had no reason to believe, which was, That they should send me Letters from Court at this time in a Cypher I was able to make not one word of, and so told him my story; He was a little grave at first, but presently smil'd and told me, I had gain'd greater Credit with him and the rest of the States, than I could lose by a greater matter than this, and said, perhaps he could help me in it, being as much vers'd in Cypher as another Man. I very frankly pulled out my Letter, and my Key, and my Paper with the Rules, and upon it we fell to work together for Two Hours, and all to as much purpose as picking Straws; and so we gave it over, but without the least ill humor, or distrust in him, only saying, Things without remedies must pass, and we must stay till my next Letters came, upon which he would believe I would tell him the King's Answer in

that;

that Point, as clearly as if I had seen it now. I assured him of it, tho' I confess there might be way to evade it, and told him I would end with him as I had begun; That His Majesty had enough to employ in Business that required address, and would I was sure imploy me in none, but where Plainness and Truth were the Qualities necessary. In this manner I past over an ill step, which might have been of ill Consequence to me in my whole Journey, for I must attribute the strange success of my Negotiation to no ability, but meerly to the confidence between Monsieur *de Witt* and me, which made him tell the *Spanish* Ambassador, and the Marquis his Envoy, that he did not believe the King could have imployed another Man in his Kingdoms who could have brought this Business to such an issue, and so sudden; upon which Subject I have been so large, to shew your Lordship the absolute necessity there will be for me to keep touch with him whenever I receive the knowledge of what His Majesty's Answer was in this last dispatch upon the point of the Provisional Articles.

The next morning after this accident, Monsieur *de Witt* sent to me the encloſed Copy of the *French* King's Letter to the States, even before it was communicated to them, upon which we resolved upon a new dispatch to press the Marquis to consent to our Project of the Peace, according to the Treaty, of which I had sent him one Copy, and the States another by two of their Deputies, who parted from hence about three or four Days past, to solicit the Marquis upon that Point.

Monsieur *de Witt* was much pleased upon the *Dutch* Ambassadors account, in their last Letters, of His Majesty's resolution to set out a Fleet of 40 Ships this Spring; saying, they had resolved to set

out

but 48. and that our Two Fleets would prove the best ratification of our Treaty.

[illegible] have sent an Express to their Ministers at [illegible] with Instructions how to represent and pursue this Transaction in that Court, which whole Dispatch they communicated to me, desiring His Majesty would likewise instruct his Ambassador there to the same purpose, which was perfectly pursuing the Letter of our Treaty, and much pressing the Peace of *Portugal*, if not already concluded.

Monsieur *Van Zuylen* expects to part for *Breda* the beginning of next Week, whose Instructions when ready, will likewise be communicated to me, that His Majesty may see the Condition in which they proceed, and may order His Ministers there to pursue our Treaty in the same Language.

I have once had a long discourse with the Count *d'Estrades* at the *Portugal* Ambassador's House, who very sharply resents the *Dutch* proceedings, and says, his Master will do so too, not for the Substance but the Manner and *dissimulation* of it, to conclude a League defensive with so open an Enemy, without offering his Master to enter into it, is as much as giving his Ambassador the best part of it till it was Signed, especially when the Minister did broke with *England* merely upon their quarrel, and given no part of all his Assistance. Not say, but [illegible] Minister can take nothing ill, because will provide [illegible] other but our Neutrality, and so keep us from a defensive League with *Spain*. But by Letters that have it from some of his Family, I know they resent His Majesty's part in it enough too. For my part, I told him plainly, I wonder'd his Master or his Ministers should expect nothing of this kind, when there was not a Shop Boy in *England* or *Holland* that

did

did not know and say upon occasion it was neither of our Interests to let *Flanders* fall into the *French* hands, nor to let the Power of *France* grow to that excess, that those Princes or States, who had hitherto treated with them upon equal Terms should be forced to do it hereafter with their Hats in their hands. For the manner of it of our Isle or the *Dutch*, I told him Ceremony was used only when Men are secure and at leisure, but always forgotten (and indeed not expected) in haste or in danger.

Whether this be the way I ought to treat this Matter, it were fit I knew your Lordship's opinion, till then I use it as the most natural to me, because the true, and likely to be believed; however, I always say, that if the *French* mean what they have said, and will have Peace, His Majesty offers it and has no other design, but if they will have War they may have enough of it.

I humbly beg your Lordship's pardon for my hasty haste, which is occasion'd by my having no Secretary here, or any other Servant to help me in my very numerous dispatches upon so many occasions. Besides, I am engaged to spend this Evening at Monsieur *de Witt's*, with the Prince of *Orange* (whom I have seen only once upon my return) where we are all to play the Young Men, and be as merry as Cards and Dancing and Eating will make us, for I do not think Drinking will have any great share. The next day Monsieur *de Witt* is at leisure, we have a match at Tennis, where I hope to acquit myself better than to Night, if I have not forgot all the Address I ever had.

Your Lordship sees what a worthy Minister you have help'd His Majesty to, thus spends his Time and his Masters Money all this rate; and therefore the best thing you can do is to hasten the Ratifications

ed that

[illegible] Letter [illegible] Affairs, [illegible] Power, that he has yet [illegible] Wars. [illegible] Answer from [illegible] Affairs, [illegible] Letter. [illegible] Cypher if you [illegible] Servants, [illegible] Truth than I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful

and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Rotterdam, Feb. 21. S.N. 1668.

My Lord,

UPon *Saturday* last I had my Audience of [illegible] and the time since has been little enough for the necessary Visits which were to attend it. You have procur'd the States resolution, and Letter thereupon to convey His Majesty [illegible] of this conveyed me lately by Mr. Secretary [illegible] and which I delivered that Morning I had my Audience. The Copies of both I send your Lordship enclos'd, together with a Letter from the States to His Majesty in answer to my Letter of Credence. For the Oath His Majesty takes by

[illegible] to the Officers in pursuance of an
[illegible] Monsieur de Witt
[illegible] an
Oath to the St[illegible] and
[illegible] Oath
[illegible] who [illegible] con-
[illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] to
[illegible] upon it [illegible]
[illegible] this manner, [illegible] the
[illegible] as also to inform His Majesty in
[illegible] above all here, which is the more ex-
traordinary considering what I found them in at
my coming, for both the *Portugal* Ambassadour and
[illegible] as well as many others [illegible] have
[illegible] the Three first Days after
[illegible] some of the States who were not of
[illegible] Business would come to nothing,
[illegible] piece of jealousie was left between us;
[illegible] thing have brought it about but the
entire confidence with Monsieur *de Witt* in the whole
[illegible] of it, which I could not but say to his justi-
[illegible] on against the opinion conceiv'd of him by
[illegible] of your Lordship's Friends at my being last in
[illegible]

[illegible] sorry to find your Lordship no better an
[illegible] of Zeal towards us than you will find
[illegible] in the enclosed Paper, upon which I shall not
[illegible] than to assure your Lord-
[illegible] nothing was omitted on my part.

To avoid the Ceremony of being brought out of
Town, and many Visits intended me this Morning,
I came from the Hague before Day, and [illegible] upon
the very point of embarking in one of the States
Yachts for Antwerp; but finding the Captain of
the Berlin Yacht still here, who tells me he has not

been able yet to go out for the extreme storms. I took this occasion of letting your Lordship know my being thus far upon my way.

I acquainted Monsieur *de Witt* with that Clause in one of your Letters, commanding me to settle a secret correspondence with him before I parted, upon which he took me by the hand, bid me assure your Lordship that was done already, and between the Nations too; and that nothing so much should arise on this side to weaken it, but that he will give me in particular the advice of it before any resolutions should be taken upon it, if I were any where in their reach.

Upon other particulars I shall have time to enlarge by the next Post from *Antwerp*, or *Brussels*, and in the mean time will only say, that I hear an increase of my happiness in this Negotiation to be applauded on both sides, is the consideration of my having attended a Person so much belonging to your Lordship as,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful

and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Brussels,

Brussels, March 30. St. N. 1668.

My Lord,

I Find by your Lordship's of the [illegible] his Majesty resolves my journey to *Aix*, [illegible] at this time, upon the [illegible] *Orange* began his [illegible] upon the Sea. I have [illegible] past my Son in some [illegible] that when I receive his Majesty's more [illegible] Commands, I may obey them, as becomes me, the point shifting, as well as the circumstances, wherein I hope however to be more particularly instructed, at least in point of Forms, [illegible] in which manner of my [illegible] For my first appearance, I will go in the [illegible] the Baron de Bergeyck led the way, and for what [illegible] shall rule my self according as what I find upon the place. And now I have told your Lordship that His Majesty shall not fail of being obeyed, I must still confess my own judgment to be [illegible] what it was in my former, and that in case [illegible] consent to prolong the Cessation, I see no reason His Majesty has to be [illegible] of [illegible] a Minister long piece of much Pageantry, unless [illegible] it, with whom it may not be so dear so much as in Form, and shall not pretend to understand any more of this Business, if while the *French* carry on the War in [illegible] in *Flanders*, we and the *Dutch* and the Spaniard [illegible] be treating in Jest at *Aix*. I should rather believe that [illegible] appearance drawn on the [illegible] by shewing so great desire of Peace, there is no way left for us to obtain a Peace of the *French*, but by shewing we are resolved to enter boldly into the War; I mean both we and the *Dutch*, and that in

ease we cannot gain the suspension of Arms, we should recal our Ministers from *Paris*, break up the Congress at *Aix*, and tell them plainly we will betake our selves to other Counsels. For to think we will be contented with their offer of restoring what they shall take between this and the 15th. of *May*, is to put a little too much scorn upon us, and shew they have as mean an opinion of our Wit as our Strength; as if we could think it easier to obtain their Restitution for ever of what they should possess, than the forbearance of invading what they should restore within a Month. For my part I have writ freely to Monsieur *de Witt* my Thoughts upon this matter, and cannot but esteem it more insolent in the *French* to pretend to *Dupe* all the World besides than to pretend to beat them. I find by one yesterday from Sir *J. Trevor*, that he is of my mind, and thinks their refusal of prolonging the Suspension, puts an end to all this Negotiation, in which, I suppose, he is by this time fully inform'd, and that we shall be so by the next we receive from him, that in this he would not undertake to judge.

Monsieur *de Witt* presses very much an issue upon the Proposals of the Marquis for Money upon their Towns, and to that purpose the *Holland* Deputies follow'd his Excellence to *Antwerp* on Monday, with what success I cannot tell, they being each yet returned, tho' expected this day. It hangs infinitely that the preparations for War depend upon the Negotiation, and that the Marquis dares not conclude it but upon a Peace; but I suppose one dispatch more will end that doubt, and hope the matter may ripen in the mean time, between the Marquis and the Deputies, which I shall assist in as Monsieur *de Witt* desires me with great earnestness. We have here no late Action nor News, I have read the Article

ticle upon the point of the Pavillion in *Holland*, and insisted upon the force of it, upon which I remember he said the thing was left in doubt, because the *modo* was in dispute, and some of our Admirals had understood and used it as we pretend, and others of our Admirals, as they desire, which is, [illegible]; and in this sort I was not well read. For the place of Signing, I am easily come over into your Lordship's opinion, and was settled in my own only upon Sir *George Downing*'s example, which they told me in *Holland*.

In case the War goes on, and His Majesty sends over a Body of Men to these Countries, I hope it will be remembred how far the Honour of the Nation will be concern'd in the choice of every Officer, this being the first occasion we have had for many years of meeting the *French* in the Field: And if they could find an *English* General, sleeping upon the ground with a stone under his Head, as they did the Duke of *Bedford*, (that is, resolving his Men should do no worse than himself) I doubt not but they would make as way now as well as then, at least in this War, if not in all others. The first part of a Captain will be, to see his Men subsist, which must make way for Order and Discipline, as those for Victory. I am ever with perfect Devotion and Truth,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful

and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Brussels, March 21. 1668.

My Lord,

This Day parts the Gentleman sent over by the Count Molinguen the Master of the Horse to have satisfied by him whatever was omitted before for the full information in all particulars of the necessities of those Countreys, and what is desired as to the degrees or Application of the assistances intended them by their Neighbours. He assures me likewise of having from the Council Letters full Powers to conclude upon the Swedish Treaty.

His Excellency hath read me this Morning a Copy of a Letter from Don Estevan, of the Resolution taken by the States upon the last dispatch from Spain, which if well translated into Spanish and true recited, whether Wise or no, seems I confess something del burlesque, and in which I do not see how His Majesty can with Honour concur with them, and is one of those things which should be done at no time or case (if done at all) without the being looked on. The Sum of it is to force Spain before the end of May upon the first Alternative, or after the end of June to suffer France to fall upon them with their own Forces for recovering the second and more advantageous Alternative, and in case Spain will not consent to the Peace upon those Terms by the end of July then to joyn all their Forces with France para echar los Espagnoles fuera del pays Baxo, and to erect that part of the Countrey next Holland consisting of Mecklyn, Antwerp, Gant, Bruges (and all within certain prescribed bounds) into a free State, under the protection of England, France and Holland.

There

There past by a Courier from *Holland* to *Paris* about Two this Afternoon, which the Marquis believes carried this Resolution, tho' the *Dutch* Deputies here will not avow to know any thing of it, and I cannot tell how the States can pretend to come to any such Resolution without His Majesties knowledge and consent, being contrary to our Treaty, therefore I suspend my Judgment upon this matter till I hear from Monsieur *de Witt*, who sent me word this day by the Courier who carried my last, of which I sent your Lordship a Copy, that he was at that time so ill that he could not write, but would very suddenly upon all things in my last.

On the other side, Letters from *Cambray*, *Mons* and *Valenciennes* give advice of the *French* Troops beginning to move, and Monsieur *Louvois* being arrived to be at *Alte*, which is about Eight Leagues from hence, upon the 15*th*. currant. I do not see any possibility of their attacking this place before the end of *May*, since they must bring Forage for all their Cavalry Nine or Ten Leagues by Land, but doubt their first design will be upon *Conde*, *Valenciennes* or *Namur*, and for my own part, if it must be, I wish the Game were begun, that we and the *Dutch* might jointly take our measures.

The Marquis upon these Two Advices from *Holland* and from the Frontiers, begins to fall again upon the discourse of a Necessity there will be for me to go into *Holland*, using the same expression with your Lordship in your last, of being in all three Places, but adding *Madrid* to them, where I doubt he thinks I might for some days be as necessary as at any of the rest, for as yet he has receiv'd no Answers from that Court upon his dispatches signifying his declaration touching Alternative and the motives towards it. But as yet the first time of opi-

nion that I am less necessary at *Aix* than at any of the other, which makes me not hasten thither but expect to hear the arrival of Monsieur *Colbert*, and withal, some appearance of the Treaties beginning in earnest before I go; that I may not make only part of a piece of Pageantry or a dumb show, instead of applying my self upon these Scenes, to that which is the Essential part of the Business.

The Marquis tells me that upon this last dispatch from *France*, Monsieur *de Witt* made a difficulty to conclude the Treaty upon the Towns in *Gelderland*, which had been in all points adjusted with Don *Estevan*, supposing, as I imagine, that would look like too positive an engagement with *Spain*, before the Business with *France* was absolutely broke. I am ever with perfect Devotion and Truth,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful,

and most Humble Servant.

W. Temple.

Brussels, April 3. *S. N.* 1668.

My Lord,

SInce my last I have received your Lordship's of the 16*th.* and 19*th.* past, the First accompanied with Powers under the great Seal, and the other under the Signet, which will serve to fill my Head and empty my Purse; what other Effects they will have

have either upon the Business or upon me, I cannot tell. I am not yet very fond, that I can find, of setting upon my new Honour. And because, I suppose, His Majesty is as little so, of having a Minister attend at all upon a Mock Treaty (if this prove so) I suppose I need not begin my Journey till I know of Monsieur *Colbert's* arrival there to keep the poor Baron of *Berghych* in countenance, nor till the States think it necessary for me to go in conformity with their disposition to Monsieur *Beverning*. For my own part, I cannot think it will be to any purpose, till I know His Majesties and the States Answer upon the Two Propositions of Peace in Sir *J. Trevor's* of the 30th. past, and the Peace Reply and Resolution thereupon, which decide the fate of the whole Affair. In the mean time I put my self in a posture of parting at Two Days warning, and in the mean time, I desire another Power may be sent me of Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, that so if the other Ministers bring no higher Styles, (as I cannot hear that Monsieur *Beverning* does, and know that the Baron *de Berghych* is to conform to the rest) I may not break the rank; for as I understand His Majesty's Intentions were not to give Law to the rest upon this occasion, but comply with their example, which makes me a little wonder I had not both Powers at the same time, and desire that omission may be supply'd. I desire likewise to know, That in case Monsieur *Colbert* comes with the Style of Ambassador, and yet Monsieur *Beverning* shall content himself with that of Deputy, and the Baron with that of Envoy Extraordinary, whether I may not conform to the Two Last, for of this I am pretty confident to acquit my self well enough both in Train and other Circumstances, whereas th' other is a thing I know nothing of, and

enough

I cannot here think with you, my Lord, that the only end of Peace is to satisfy Subjects and raising the only application of Peace, is but an endeavour to divert the Odium of the War upon Spain, and thereby weaken their Assistance. And consider in it by the knowledge of every great and diligent advance made every day in their Preparations upon the Frontiers, Fleets of Convoy, Contributions, great Guns, and all other necessaries falling down every day from Antwerp to Tournay, of which four were first lately by a party of their Friends, and has since had with the Siege five and their last action discovered the Designs of

There are also Forces and Magazines making ready in great numbers of small Boats, made which seem intended for some attempt upon Flanders bears the Siege or whose safety is like to consist still it, and other Parts upon the Sabbies in self perhaps to such Ends as Valenciennes, Tournay, or Arras with Troops; all Provisions may be conducted by Water, the only way seeming likely for the first attempts of the early Campaigne. I hear the French King writ private Letters to the Governour of Dunkirk to get all things in readiness for taking the Field by the 20th. of this Month, and by that day to expect him there.

The first attempts seem to me likely to be made upon Valenciennes, Namur or Brussels, if not more than one at a time; the Prince of Conti including as we hear, to head an Army between Sambre and Meuse by the 25th of this Month.

The Marquis seems resolved upon the first motion of the French Troops, to gather a Body of Six or Seven Thousand Foot, and Three Thousand Horse here about Brussels for defence of the Heart of the Country and Seat of the Government, which may be

and

of last Year.

In

[illegible] they would furnish him with the Six Thousand [illegible] and with a Sum of Money as well [illegible] ing of Powder and Mortars desir'd by the [illegible] had undertaken for the Marquis's Signing, Whereupon Monsieur [illegible] him they would meet and deliberate [illegible]

[illegible] out

Upon this the *Holland* Deputies, who had before pressed the Marquis about Signing the Project drawn up before in short by Monsieur *Lionne*, renewed their instances for the sending immediate Powers to the Baron *Bergeyck* at *Aix*, to Sign this new Project, to which Monsieur *Colbert* was already impowered. The Marquis was firm and immoveable not to Sign either the Old or the New without our giving him assurances both of *France* observing the suspension of Arms, and signing the same Project of the Peace, as likewise our Guarranty of the Peace after concluded; so that the whole Peace turned upon this hinge, and several Expresses had gone between the Deputies and their Masters upon the point without success. During which time, I said I had no direct Orders in the case, but expected them by the first; However, having Instructions to advance the Peace all I could in conjunction with the States Ministers, I promised both the Marquis and the Deputies, that in case they received Orders to give the Marquis the assurance desir'd, I would not refuse to join with them, provided they were no otherwise than in pursuance of our Treaty at the Hague, because I supposed His Majesty would be content to engage with the States to *Spain*, what He and the States had already engag'd one to another, especially for atchieving the Peace, which was the main end of our first Treaty with the States.

Yesterday the Powers came from the States to the Deputies for giving the Marquis the Assurances desir'd, and likewise a Guarranty for the Peace, with notice to the said Deputies that it had been agreed upon in *England* by your Lordship and the *Dutch* Ambassador, which took away all difficulty I could make of Signing joyntly with the Deputies, knowing that an Express had been Nine or Ten Days

upon the way to me with Instructions to that purpose, [illegible] and so this Morning we finished the Instrument drawn up by the *Dutch* Deputies, according to their Powers, of which I send an enclosed Copy; but am now a little troubled to find, by Mr. *Ormond*'s arrival, that the Instrument sent me with Powers to Sign is a bare Guarranty without the preceding Assurances, and that the States received indeed the Guarranty from *England*, but agreed upon the Assurances at the *Hague*. I comfort my self with the Evidence that my refusal to Sign might have endangered the Peace, and with the worst circumstances; for thereupon the Marquis had likewise refused to authorize the Signing of the Treaty, which might have given the *French* occasion to change their minds, and the *Dutch* to suspect that I did it by concert with the Marquis on purpose to hinder the Peace; especially since His Majesty had upon all other occasions, seem'd even forwarder than them to secure the Advantages, or at least Securities of [illegible]. However, if His Majesty esteems this a Fault [illegible] on it, I humbly beg his Pardon, and desire your Lordship will both intercede for it, and excuse it to me. Yet I shall let your Lordship know [illegible] to Night in Cypher, or by the return of the Express, another caution I us'd before I consented to Sign, which was I think material and [illegible]

Before I close this Letter, I hope to receive [illegible] Excellencies Orders to the Baron *Borgard* for the Signing of the Treaty, which the Marquis sent to [illegible] Deputies have both agreed I must [illegible] who the last by their good will would [illegible] for more than the next minute after. I [illegible] them on by going within Two Days, and [illegible] my word: And in the mean time the Marquis [illegible] parties: This night a Courier to [illegible] the motion

as all is to be done, and instances for the sudden dispatch of the Ratifications, since he sees by our Project signed at *Paris*, that their share of these Countries is like the Lloyds Books, growing less every time 'tis offer'd them, and yet to be bought at a higher Price.

The *Holland* Deputies dispatch likewise an Express this Evening to *Aix*, with notice that I shall suddenly bring the Powers from the Marquis for the signing the Peace, which is all the outside Honour His Majesty will receive for ought I see in the Treaty, there being no mention made but of the Popes Mediation; tho' all People attribute wholly the beginning, pursuit, and effect of this Peace, (if it proves so) to His Majesty. I long extremely to receive another Packet from *England* before I begin my Journey, that I may receive His Majesties Sence, if not Orders upon this Affair; since the knowledge you must have receiv'd of the state of it from Sir *John Trevor*, tho' he has fail'd me these Two last Expresses in the main pinch of the Business, referring me wholly to Monsieur *Van Benningben*'s dispatches.

Tho' the Orders are out on both sides for the suspension from Enterprizes upon strong Places, yet the *British* Troops march, as we hear, into the Country; with resolution, as we suppose, to eat up the *Mal pays*, tho' they cannot swallow the Towns. The News from *Holland* is, That the Bishop of *Munster* having refus'd them passage for the *Lunenburgh* Troops, they have however ordered their march, and will send out a Body of their own Men to meet and secure them, upon which, the Bishop of *Munster* prepares to put himself in a posture of Defence, and has written to the Marquis for those Troops, or at least Officers which he drew out of the *Munster* Service, and other Letters to several of the Officers to return in pursuance of a Promise he

pretends from them to that purpose. This gives me some reflections which I shall communicate to your Lordship by the Express.

I desire His Majesty's Commands, whether to stay at *Aix* after the signing of the Peace, since the Ratifications are to be given at *Paris* and *Brussels*, and likewise what Instructions I am to pursue with Don *Juan*, who in all likelihood cannot but be arriv'd before my return. I am ever with perfect Devotion and Truth,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant

W. Temple.

Aix, May 2. *S. N.* 1668.

My Lord,

THIS is the first day of my stirring out since my arrival here, and my Health would have furnished me with excuse enough for staying at home some days longer, had I not been called abroad by the necessity of our great Business here, which having past all material difficulties, fell still into new delays upon others that are meer formal. Upon my Letters to the Marquis, he thought fit to dispatch new Orders to the Baron *Bergeyck* for signing the Treaty Word for Word as it was projected at *Paris*, which arrived yesterday. But in the time of the Baron's delays here after the Orders I brought him, Monsieur *Colbert* went to the Nuncio and

Sign'd

Sign'd one Original of the Treaty there, and (my illneſs then ſuffering no Viſits) went from thence to Monſieur *Beverning* and Sign'd another there, and immediately ſent his Secretary to tell me, that knowing I had brought all with me, which was neceſſary for the concluſion of the Buſineſs, he had made that advance, as to Sign the Treaty at Monſieur *Beverning*'s, which he would have done at my Houſe had my illneſs permitted. The next Morning Monſieur *Beverning* brought me the Treaty, Sign'd in a manner, that Monſieur *Colbert*'s name written at length fill'd up the whole line immediately under the laſt words of the Treaty.

The Baron yeſterday receiving Orders to Sign, came immediately to me, and told me, that the form was preſcrib'd him, which was to Sign both in the ſame Line, keeping the right in one Inſtrument, and the left in the other, which was the Form in the *Pyrenean* Treaty. That beſides, he was commanded to ſend the Treaty Signed to the Nuncio by his Secretary, but not to go thither himſelf to Sign it. Monſieur *Colbert* refuſed abſolutely to Sign in the ſame Line, in regard of his ſuperiour Character, which is, of Ambaſſador Extraordinary; and the Barons only of Plenipotentiary from the Marquis, whoſe meaning I underſtand not, in making his Miniſter paſs for an Ambaſſador, and yet never ſending him the Powers which I know were come from the Queen to that purpoſe. Beſides, Monſieur *Colbert* refuſed to receive a Treaty of which none of the Mediators had ſeen the Signing, and ſaid, he knew not the Baron's hand, nor was to truſt the report of his Secretary: and he thought likewiſe the Baron made him go lower in the Buſineſs by Signing at his own Houſe, when we had given the example of going to the Mediators

to Sign there, and therefore insisted, That if we would not Sign at the Nuncio's, at least, we should do it at my House; and in these difficulties the greatest part of yesterday and this day have been worn out. The Baron being a Man in precisenes and caution more a *Spaniard*, than a *Spaniard* himself, I was weary of so many comings and goings with messages about these perplexing Trifles, and so resolv'd to return my formal Visits, which I have finisht this Evening to the Three several Ministers, and finding all kind of disputes grow worse for going longer, would not leave the Baron till I saw him Sign one Instrument to be left in my hands, and send another by his Secretary to the Nuncio, to the end, That in case Monsieur *Colbert* would not content himself with that he was to receive from the Nuncio, being without witness of its being Sign'd, he might at least be satisfied with that I am ready to deliver him, and of which I am witness to the Signing: So that at this instant, I think I may say, I am possest of the Peace, having in my hands Monsieur *Colbert*'s Instrument Signed in Monsieur *Beverning*'s Presence, and the Baron's Sign'd in my own; and thus, I suppose, ends this great Business, the Marquis assuring me yesterday by a Letter, That the Ratification word for word is already in his Hands, so that I may give His Majesty a *Paradise* of Two Peaces, so great and so important to the World, made by His Authority and Influence since the beginning of this Year; and will assure your Lordship, that every body gives this wholly to him, and I think with reason, and do not stick to confess, That giving all the name of it to the Pope, is to turn his Holiness *un peu en ridicule*, which made me very well contented to let it pass without mine and Monsieur *Beverning*'s Signing a Clause at the bot-

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tom of the Treaty as Witneſſes and Mediators, though I conſented to it, ſince Monſieur *Beverning* ſeem'd to deſire it, and Monſieur *Colbert* was contented, but the Baron having, as he ſays, no Orders in the point, it is like to be omitted.

I have now but one trouble left, and that is, what to do with my Excellency; for conſidering how ill my Time and how well my Money has paſt with it hitherto, I doubt no body will be perſwaded to take it off my hands. I have ſundry very good and wiſe Advices given me upon this point, by thoſe that know more of this Matter than I, if I had the grace to follow them, but for my part, I doubt very much, that if I receive no contrary Commands from your Lordſhip before the *Spaniſh* and *Holland* Miniſters go from hence, which ſeems likely in very few days, I ſhall ſpend two or three Days only at the *Spaw*, and from thence return ſtrait for *Bruſſels*, juſt the ſame perſon I left it, and fall very orderly to reducing my Train, as the Marquis, I ſuppoſe will his Troops. My comfort at parting is, I ſhall leave His Majeſty a very able Reſident here, and much better inclined and qualified than I, to do the *German* Buſineſs, if the Town here would be perſwaded in the right of his Character, to let him do his own; but that matter, I hope, I ſhall make a ſhift to leave as I found it. In the mean time I think I had beſt leave troubling your Lordſhip any further, than with the aſſurances of my being ever,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt Faithful and moſt Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Bruſſels, May, 15. 1668.

My Lord,

HAving found no occaſion for my ſtay at *Aix*, after the departure of both the *Dutch* and *Spaniſh* Miniſters, I left that Town on *Wedneſday* laſt, and the ſame day laid down the Character of Ambaſſador upon my coming out of their Territories, though it was impoſſible to avoid the Ceremony at *Maeſtricht*, where Monſieur *Beverning* had given Orders for the whole Garriſon to be in Arms the next Morning, and to march before my Window, conſiſting of above 5000. Horſe and Foot in very good points and order. The ſame day arrived near Forty *Scotch* Souldiers of the *French* Regiment of Guards, that had come away to ſeek conditions in the States Service, as ſeveral parties of their Infantry do every day, deſiring liberty of paſſing through theſe Countreys into *Holland*. I met Monſieur *Beverning* on *Sunday* night at *Louvain*, having induced him to take this Town in his way home on purpoſe to have an occaſion of entertaining the Marquis upon the Subject of our common Affairs, and to ſoften the neceſſity of our endeavours in the Peace, which I found had ſo much peekt the Marquis in what paſs'd at *Aix* between us and the Baron *Bergayck*. The Night we arriv'd his Excellency ſent a Gentleman to Compliment us both ſeverally, but withal to tell us, how that he was ſo ill with the remainder of his laſt fit of the Gout, that he could not yet receive any Viſit. I have not at all preſt it for my ſelf, but ſignified to the Secretary, how neceſſary I thought it would be to receive a Compliment which Monſieur *Beverning* had come ſo far out of his way

to make, yet this is the second day he has been here without being able to see the Marquis, and if he misses to Morrow Morning, he intends to be gone in the Afternoon; and though he sets a good face upon it, yet I doubt he will be not very well satisfied with his reception here, which is a point I understand not, and should in such a case see him sooner than a Physician.

I have press'd the business of the *Swedish* Alliance both by Letter and the Baron *Bergayck*, who told me this Morning, he had not yet seen the Marquis, tho' he has been six days in Town. But the *Holland* Deputy here tells me, he found his Excellence very cold in that matter upon his last Audience, and in a manner declaring, that now the Peace is made, he did not think himself oblig'd to what the War had induced him to promise. The Deputy has received new Orders to make new Instances, and tells me that if the States will not ratifie their Guarranty of the Peace till this be done, which I doubt is something too sharp a way of proceeding; and that more of the same kind may thro' the *Spaniards*, in time, upon some desperate Counsels, in freeing themselves from the burthen of these Countries, and the ill usage they receive from their Neighbours, in the ways of saving or defending it. Monsieur *Beverning* is resolved to press the Marquis in this point of *Sweden*, as far but as fairly as he can, and will give me an account of his Successes, that I may take my measures afterwards in the same pursuit, that is, if he sees him; if not, will leave it to the Deputies after he is gone.

This Morning we received Letters from Sir *John Trevor* and Monsieur *Van Beuningben*, complaining of new difficulties they meet with at *Paris*; That the King there is so far unsatisfied with the manner

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of the Baron *Bergeick*'s proceeding at *Aix*, and his appearing to be absolutely forced to the Signing, rather by the Ministers there than by the Marquis's Orders, that he will not consent to any Cessation of Acts of Hostilities, till all be perfected and in his own way. That since the difficulties raised against any Ratifications but such as should be sent upon the Treaty Signed at *Aix*, they began now to except at that it self, because the Powers therein mentioned are so *piquante* and disagreeing with the Intentions of a sincere Peace; and upon this, both Sir *John Trevor* and Monsieur *Van Beuningben* advise that the Baron should return to *Aix* with new Powers, and there make a new Signature of the Treaty, that so the Ratifications may pass with the Insertion of the softer Powers. This Monsieur *Beverning* and I have considered, and both conclude that *France* will seek all the ways they can yet to break the Peace. That to send and Sign again the Treaty at *Aix*, would look as if the last Signature were not valid; and to get a Ratification of a new Instrument from *Spain* within this Month, is impossible: And yet that *France* has declar'd they expect, that if they desire a Ratification without Insertion of any Powers (which in Ratifications seems wholly unnecessary) the Marquis, having as I hear one in blank may furnish them. That if they will be content with Ratifications upon the Treaty as it was signed with Powers equally *piquante* on both sides, there is hope it may come from *Spain* within the term limited; That if neither of these will content them, we know not what else can, unless giving more time for another Signature, and fetching Ratifications upon it from *Madrid* without any change in the State of the Treaty. This is our opinion upon it, but what will be the Marquis's

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we cannot tell, till he pleases to be seen.

In the mean time the *French* Forces are led into Five Bodies, range and ravage over the whole Countrey, and by spoiling it all that can be, give at least one Argument that they intend to leave it, and look not upon it as their own; though I have, I confess, no good opinion of the Peace, either being concluded or lasting, since the *French* may believe they can find their Interest better in the War, by the want of Force in the *Spaniards* for their own defence, and of consent in us and the *Dutch*, for their present Assistance. In the mean time I hear all the Fortifications at *Dole* and *Gray*, are not only demolish'd, but the Materials and all the Cannon carried away by the River to ———, so as whenever the Business breaks again, the *French* are Masters of all that Countrey the next day, in being Masters of the Field; which, to say truth, is a most unjust piece of hardship put upon the *Spaniards*, in this Treaty; and since the *French* have declared they will admit no exchange of Places, makes my suspicion increase of their small sincerity in concluding or observing the present Peace.

We have new talk every day of Don *Juan*'s arrival or approach, but for my part, I am apt to believe him still at *Corunna*, or upon his way back to *Madrid*.

I have received your Lordship's of the 24. past, of my arrival here, which only repeating the instances of Two former upon the *Swedish* Treaty, I can answer no otherwise than by the relation of what has already past between the Marquis and the *Dutch* Deputy in that Business; and by the assurances of my Endeavours, so soon as I can see his Excellency, though I doubt your Lordship's conjectures are too well grounded, that without Don *Juan*'s arrival nothing

nothing that concerns Money can be brought to paſs. I am ever with perfect Devotion and Truth,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt Faithful and moſt Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

To Sir *John Trevor.*

Bruſſels, May 18. 1668.

SIR;

I Find my ſelf in your debt for one of the Twelfth currant. Mine by Monſieur *Baville*, from *Aix*, gave you the account of the Peace being Signed, and I am ſorry you have heard of the difficulties that paſt there, from any other hand, or more at large; but much more that ſo ill reflections ſhould have been made upon them by your Court there, as to make any difficulty in recalling Troops, and ceaſing Acts of Hoſtility, or in the intended exchange of Ratifications.

Your Letter found me juſt arrived here, in Monſieur *Beverning*'s company; with whom I communicated your Thoughts, agreeing in all points with what the *Holland* Deputies received at the ſame time from Monſieur *Van Beuningben*. We were all of opinion that the returning to *Aix* could not be convenient in the caſe, ſince *France* had declared not to ſatisfie themſelves with any Ratification, but upon the very Treaty ſigned there; and we are

ſure

since no time would be left to fetch a new one from *Madrid*, upon a new Signature to be made at *Aix*, within the short limits of this Month. And yet *France* might, in its present cavelling humour, make this second signing pass for a pretext of the former being invalid, or at least not to be admitted; and so, after the expiring of this Month, set up their pretentions for a second Alternative.

Therefore we agreed to desire, you and Monsieur *Van Beuninghen* would inform your selves of the mind of *France*, what it is they pretend to in the form of Ratifications. For if they desire them either, upon the very Treaty, Signed at *Aix*, with the same insertion of Powers, or else, upon the bare Treaty, without any insertion of Powers, (which I think is usual enough in Ratifications,) we doubt not but you will be furnish'd with the choice of either. Or if they desire a Ratification upon the Treaty, with new, and softer Powers, I have no reason to doubt but, allowing a convenient time to fetch them, and in the mean time contenting themselves with these, such may very easily be had.

But if *France* will first advise a Ratification in Blank, and then refuse it; first content themselves without any insertion of Powers, and then positively require it (and such Powers as cannot be inserted, and ratified within the time) it will seem apparent that, one way, or other, they resolve to break the Business; and will be content with an ill occasion, if they cannot find a good one. This I can say of the difficulties at *Aix*, that the greatest was made by the Baron *Bergayck* upon the sharpness of the Powers to be inserted: That he insisted upon Three Days time to send for new ones; but Monsieur *Colbert*, in the mean time, Signing the Treaty with the present Powers, declared to me and Monsieur

Sir,

Your Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Brussels,

Bruſſels, May 29. St. N. 1668.

My Lord,

THE Speed of our late Packets has brought me Two of your Lordſhip's ſince my laſt of the 15th. inſtant. The firſt of which left you in ſome ſatisfaction of the Marquis's proceedings, which I doubt will hardly allay. For after all, when we were every day in expectation of a Courier from *Paris*, with advice of the Ratifications being exchanged, and the Day for publication of the Peace agreed to, on *Friday* laſt in the Afternoon upon a ſudden motion he went to *Antwerp*, but aſſuring me of his return next day; who I am ſure muſt not ſtir from hence for fear of loſing an hours time in a buſineſs, under a time ſo much importing as the next diſpatch was like to be. The next day the Duke of *Aumale* with a Body of 5 or 6000 *French* came within half an *Engliſh* mile of this Town, where he has continued ever ſince, every Night or Morning falling upon ſome of the outGuards of this Town, with Parties of Two or Three Hundred Horſe, and has forced the main Guard under the Shot of the *Spaniſh* Infantry that lie in the outworks. Some have fallen every Day in this little War, and in the very ſight of the Town Walls, and the Duke *Arſchot* lying about two or three Leagues off another way with another Body of about 12000, have given the Town for two Days together very ſtrong Alarms, and ſuſpicions of the *Dutch* good meaning in the Peace, and that they intended an immediate Attack upon this Place; and that Marquis's going to *Antwerp* was interpreted to have been upon the advice of it, and invention to avoid his

part

part in the busineſs. I did all I could, to keep every body in heart, with the assurance of the Peace; and yet was almost afraid of a Tumult in the Town, when they saw the Enemy at their Gates, and neither Governour nor Officer to give them either Heart or Order. In this posture an Expreſs from *Paris* found us yesterday about noon, with the News from Sir *John Trevor* and Monsieur *Van Beuningben*, that the exchange of the Ratifications was made on *Saturday*, and that the Peace would certainly be proclaimed at *Paris*, either yesterday or this day. This was received here with the greateſt Jubilee that could be, even by thoſe that had a Week ago deteſted the Peace; and none was now in fault but the *French*, for being so insolent, and the Marquis for being so negligent; as to be one so near and t'other so far off, when the Peace was to be publiſh'd. We loſt no time in diſpatching away to his Excellency at *Antwerp*, and he arrived here about Eleven last Night. This Morning the *French* fell again upon the out-Guards, and forced them into the outworks, till relieved by other Troops from the Town, they beat back the *French* into their main Body. I hear not of above 7. or 8. kill'd, but very many wounded on both sides, among whom the Count *Gravendonke* on this side, but not mortally as is believed. The Commandant of the *French* was kill'd, and this Afternoon the Duke *de Quaſtin* sent a Trumpet with a Coach and Six Horses into Towns for his Body. I hear not his name, no more than that he was *enfant de famille*, and in very good equipage. About Eleven this Morning, with much ado, the *Holland* Deputy and I got an Audience from the Marquis, and preſt him to the publiſhing the Peace this Day, in conformity with the advice of the publications intended at *Paris*; he expreſs much

resent-

relation of the *French* Troops proceedings here under their Walls, and after the Peace made, and sent him according to the [illegible] to acquaint him with the exchange of the Ratifications, and the intentions of publishing the Peace both here and at *Paris*; and to know whether they would publish it at the same time in the Army. We press'd the doing it however this very day in this Town, where the proceeding, as we thought, was to answer that at *Paris*, and not that in the Camps; and the Marquis at last consented it should be done by Five a Clock this Afternoon, whether they did it in the Army or no. That hour is now long since past, and no publication is made, and about half an hour since returned a Messenger with the Duke of *Roquelaur* his Answer to my Letter to the [illegible] Deputy, and I thought fit to send him about now upon this Subject, whereof I send your Lordship the Copies inclosed. What the Marquis intends, I know not, but am sure I will press the publication here in Town all that I can again to Morrow, and I am sure the Marquis wishes all ended as much as I, or any Man can do; but in this, as well as in the *Swedish* Business, he seems to be of the nature of some that who can do nothing frankly that they desire or resolve never so much, but ever must be gaining time whether they go to a Wedding or a Scaffold. I hope by the next Post to give your Lordship a final account of the Peace, and some more positive of the *Swedish* Business, and in the mean time am preparing to obey His Majesty's Commands of coming over after my leave taken here, which I confess is very agreeable to my desires and occasions, though I would not ask it when His Majesty seem'd to think he had present use for me either here or any where else. I acknowledge His Majesty's Bounty in giving me the choice which

way I will come, and though my inclinations would have drawn me by *Newport* or *Calais*, yet imagining my passage through *Holland* may have some look towards His Majesty's Service in this conjuncture, I resolve to take it that way, and leave there all my Equipage in private hands, and only wait upon my further Orders; for though my return thither be spoken of already among the *Dutch*, yet I suppose it is fit for me to be the last that owns the Honour His Majesty is pleas'd to intend me. I am sure I am extremely glad I am like to receive His Majesty's Instructions there upon the place, which I suppose will be very conducing to his Service, after those lights I shall be able to bring over with me both from hence and *Holland*. And beside the Honour of laying my self at His Majesty's Feet, I please my self extremely with that of kissing your Lordship's hand, and telling you in a manner, for me much more agreeable, with how much Devotion and Truth I am ever,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Brussels, June 1. *S. N.* 68.

My Lord,

UPon *Wednesday* the 30th. past, the Peace was publish'd here with the smallest Ceremonies that could well be allowed it, but more joy, I believe, in their Hearts than their Faces; for they all

now

now confess what is left them is perfectly owing to His Majesty, in bringing this affair to an end; and to [illegible], the [illegible] this Country is in, and with two Armies at the Gates of *Brussels* enough to convince them that it was no longer time to be brave.

Mr. *Hamilton* came this day privately into Town, for the Marquis is resolved to give no passage between this and the *French* Camp, till they are retired into their Quarters; which he assures me they begin to do to day, and that the Peace was this Morning proclaim'd in the Camp. I will now presume the Affair is out the reach of Accidents; and hope the execution of it will not prove so difficult as the Conclusion has been, since the same reasons which inclin'd the parties to an Agreement, seem to continue at least, if not to grow stronger on each side: On the *Spaniards* from the diffidence and weakness of their Counsels, as well as Forces; and on the *French* by the *Swedes* being at length engaged in our League.

The last *Spanish* Ordinary brought us no News, besides the death of the President of *Castile*, which it seems is a loss to the Confessor; and for Don *Juan* he is still reposing at *Vigo*, after his hasty Journey from *Madrid*, but is preparing to embark with the first good Wind. Yet the most intelligent in the affairs of that Court, and the Marquis among the rest, are of opinion he will come, but after the latest resistance he can make; and not without being forc'd to it by the Queens peremptory resolutions, and I do not see what can be easily expected from such an aversion, likely to restore the present disorders of this Government. But the Marquis talks of doing much towards it before he goes, and seems not in so much haste as he was upon his Journey.

I gave his Excellency His Majesties Letter of revocation, and he made me some Compliments upon it, and will to morrow give me all he intends for my Instructions or Memory at my arrival in England, and on *Monday* I expect my Audience of Leave; after which I intend straight for *Holland*, but to stay there no longer time than will serve for my Conference with Monsieur *de Witt* upon the general frame of affairs.

The Town is here much alarm'd at my going, and though they would make it pass for something I should take kindly from them, yet I see the generality very apt to afflict themselves with the belief that it proceeds from some unkindness of His Majesty to their Affairs, which I do all I can to secure them, and must leave the Peace to do the rest. I have nothing to bear me out in the further increase of your Lordship's trouble, besides the constant professions of that Devotion and Truth wherewith I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

London, July 18. 1668.

My Lord,

THough it is not very natural for me to give your Lordship trouble, where I am not like to see you, yet I find the hopes of any good to your Lordship equals the sence of any to my self, and makes me rejoyce with you as heartily upon your arrival at the

the *Bath*, as I could desire your Lordship's return to *London*, which is the best expression I have about me at this time. If I could have the true guess of the time I am like to stay here, I am confident it would allow me the liberty of seeing you at the *Bath* before I go; but the fate of my stay here will be to see day after day drawn on in the expectation or pursuit of my dispatch, and so to lose all the use I could make of my time towards my own Entertainments or occasions without advancing much, perhaps, by my attendance, for the thing must ripen in its own time; and I believe, cannot do it kindly but by Influences which are now something too far off. In the mean time, I omit nothing in my way towards hastening my Journey, and gave the Duke of *Buckingham*, as your Lordship commanded me, the Privy Seal, in order to His Majesty's filling up the Blank for my Equipage. The same Morning you left the Town his Grace promised me to move it that day in Council, but give me my Answer the next day at Dinner, where, in the midst of his good Musick we drunk to the good Harmony we had been talking of before, and with the same looks and meaning. After all, he told me my Business had not been moved the day before, but he would speak to the King. The next Morning his Grace went to *Tunbridge*, and is expected home this Night, so that I am hitherto just as your Lordship left me, unless an Order past yesterday at Council make any difference in the state of my Business, being in approval of all particulars offered by the *East-India* Company upon matters of Trade between us and the *Dutch* in those parts, and particularly for those Matters to be made part of my Instructions to which purpose the Order was sent to Mr. *Williamson* this Morning; and though I should not doubt to com-

pass most parts of those Matters as they are proposed, yet there is one or two which I cannot tell how they will be receiv'd or resented there, nor am I Judge how much or little it imports they [illegible].

Mr. *Williamson* has had great care of entertaining me well, and to that purpose has given me Volumes of Sir *George Downing*'s Letters to peruse, by which (if I am at all improveable) I shall learn much, both from his Style and the course of his Negotiations; but my fault is so ill, that what I get this way will cost me dear. From what I have yet read, I can only conclude, That if in our Negotiations there, we follow the same course we cannot fail of coming to the same end; for the beginning of his own times found them in the same [illegible] *France* they are now; however the [illegible] harangues of them turn'd the game to [illegible] another way than what it began.

But now I think on't, you did not run away from us here, to have us pursue you with other Cares than those of your Health, which I think is as much every Body's concernment at this time that loves his King and Country, as it can be your own; and therefore will end your Lordship's trouble here, and only wish you all the good ends you propose to your self in this Adventure, as well as [illegible] wherein no Man alive can, I am sure, take a [illegible] part than,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant.

W. Temple.

London,

London, July 21. 168[illegible]

My Lord,

Since my laſt of the 18th. the King has ſigned me the Blank in my Privy Seal, with the Thouſand Pounds for my Equipage, which ſhall content as well as if it were Three; and it ſhall go hard if I do not bear up with it ſo well, as not to ſuffer his Majeſty's preſent Parſimony to be ſeen abroad, which ought to be avoided as far as can be, however it be felt at home. Mr. Treaſurer has my Privy Seal in his hands, and promiſes all the diligence that can in diſpatching it; after which I ſhall not in the leaſt delay my Journey. My Lord Keeper continues to preſs it as very neceſſary, in regard of the *French* pretentions to *Conde*, which he fears may break out farther this Summer; but I do not judge it very likely by Monſieur *Van Beuningen*'s Letter yeſterday to the *Dutch* Ambaſſadors here, as well as by the Seaſons being ſo far ſpent, and by the *Spaniſh* Ratifications of the Triple Alliance being upon their way hither, as I find by a Copy of their King's Letter to His Majeſty which accompanies theirs, and which their Preſident ſhewed me laſt Night in the Circle we could with from that Crown, to ſee the point of their Neighbours.

I hear, at the ſame time, that *Pompone* is parted from *Breda*, without leaving any Succeſſor.

It will be a trouble to me, not an inconvenience to the Buſineſs, if I go without ſeeing your Lordſhip again, and receiving ſome Inſtructions upon thoſe Points which will firſt fall in diſcourſe, at leaſt between me and Monſieur *de Witt* at my arrival, which are concerning the States Interpoſition in the

Business of *Denmark*. The means of satisfying *Sweden* in case *Spain* continues obstinate not to do it in the way or manner [illegible]. What, general Answer, is left, about the Pavillon, how far how soon and how warmly to pursue the [illegible] of the *East-India* Company, and change of the Mint, the Treaty, and especially what Measures between us to agree upon, in case *France* pursues the new Pretensions in *Flanders*, by any other way than that of Arbitration. About this last I have already writ to Monsieur *de Witt*, to desire his Opinion that His Majesty may instruct both me, and what Minister is sent to *France*, in conformity with the Intentions of the States upon that matter, if he shall think fit, which will be the safer Counsel, and better agreeing with the present state of Affairs, than the more Honourable, which the [illegible] Embassador proposes by means of our declaring first, and thereby engaging the States to fall in with us in that point. However if the Commissioners of the Treasury will dispatch me before your Lordship return, and the [illegible] to go before my Instructions in these points are formed upon, as well as upon the way of [illegible] with Envoys, and entring upon the [illegible] of *Orange*'s private concerns [illegible] Lordship offer to resign the [illegible] I shall do the best I can [illegible] to take off the ill [illegible] Instructions could [illegible] any [illegible] on it, [illegible] French [illegible] to invade [illegible] in *Flanders*, I count to [illegible] very near [illegible] *England*, though [illegible] Orders or Instructions [illegible] they continue [illegible] this pretension only to leave the way [illegible] the success of their Negotiation with us [illegible] and pursue it accordingly. Now I think it were better I could [illegible] my Instructions digested before I went. But I shall [illegible]

[illegible] which he thinks fit [illegible] as soon as [illegible] discourse [illegible] His Majesty at large, [illegible] and [illegible] from [illegible] to believe both [illegible] Person [illegible] those Subjects [illegible] what I [illegible] and what I am sure will be most for [illegible] Master's more particular and personal [illegible] ship will receive from better hands, which I shall enter into no further than to wish your Lordship were here to observe them, and to know with how much Devotion and Truth I am ever,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful, and most Humble Servant.

W. Temple.

London, July 25. S. N. 1668.

My Lord,

'TIS easier to acknowledge than to deserve the favour I receiv'd by your Lordship of the 20th. which obliged me to resolve not only to observe the commands it brought me, but the Intentions I could discover from it. The same day I received it upon some discourse with Mr. *Williamson*, he told me, he should be loath for your Lordship's sake, that it should be said I parted upon this employment without Instructions; but advised me to take no notice of that want, so much as to the King or any else, but put my whole delay upon the Commissioners; who he doubted would bear it, and give me time

to

the ill [illegible] of your Lordship, and [illegible] with that more had heard all we [illegible] upon that Subject; but to forbear no part of our discourses besides what relate to my present Employment, his Lordship was of opinion, that I should by all means carry some Instructions with me, and that it was absolutely necessary they should come from your Lordship's hands, and that whole Correspondence be continued with you, Secretary *Morrice* having never had any part in those Transactions which have past through my hands, tho' I find the matter laid here to turn all my Correspondence now into his.

For these reasons, my Lord Keeper proposed, to have the Heads of those Matters I was to be instructed in, and send them immediately to your Lordship by the Post; and when I mentioned the same to him, which I did to your Lordship in my last, he desired me, having an hour or two of leisure that Morning, while he was in Church, to draw them form'd as an Instruction, saying, it would [illegible] a great deal of trouble, considering [illegible] with you to imploy upon those occasions. [illegible] excuses would not serve my turn, but my Lord would be obey'd, and was; and I made a sudden draught out of those Notions I had in my Head, and his Lordship liked them [illegible]

well,

[illegible]

After I had taken leave of my Lord Keeper about Eleven last Night, he sent me a Letter just arrived from Mr. *Williamson*, with a Declaration of the King's pleasure to me to go forthwith [illegible] without losing a day, this being the very day after I parted from Town with the King's Commission, and without any new Circumstances to occasion it, very much surprised me, and to speak truth, I interpreted it to come from some of my good Friends here, who having alter'd the form of my Privy Seal in several parts to my disadvantage differently from the Warrant the King signed before your Lordship, and after having delayed the Passing it, and even the Warrants for about Four Hundred Pounds of what was due to me upon my old Service, and forborn to give any issue to my *Master* Accounts, had a mind to hurry me away without time to complain or seek redress in those particulars which His Majesty had promised me, and your Lordship and my [illegible] thought reasonable to be performed before I went; so they intended me the advantage by the haste in your Lordship's absence, of being cast wholly into [illegible] hands, both for my Instructions and Correspondence. For the first part, I shall not trouble

your

Lordship being by accident arrived here too [illegible] to inform [illegible] of those [illegible] to let [illegible] life, to show the [illegible] his Majesty [illegible] the pleasure to [illegible] manner. For the last, I will only say, That if your Lordship tells me you are weary of the trouble my Correspondence has given you, and will let for that reason cast into the other Chanel, I shall upon your consideration obey you in this one Employment, but if your Lordship will not own [illegible], I will very freely tell the King himself, that for my own part, I shall extreme willingly quit my Employment if against your Intention, as well as mine, he be induced to deny me the Honour, and his Affairs (in this Negotiation, I am sure I may say it) the advantage of continuing your Lordship's Correspondence. It was that gave me both Birth, and all my growth in my whole Negotiations, and when you have no more to do with me, I am very well content you should leave me where you found,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

London July 28. S. N. 1668.

My Lord,

IN your Lordship's of the 22d. I received your Commands concerning Mr. *Povey*'s Nephew, and shall obey them as far as the severity of the Commissioners towards me will give me leave, that [illegible]

have told his Uncle, that if he should [illegible] him to come to me at my arrival, he shall be as welcome as my House can make him, and I shall give him all the encouragement with [illegible] that he is willing to make, and endeavour to improve it that way I find his Talent turned; but to keep Two Secretaries will be inconsistent with what Train I must cast my Family into, upon the Commissioners resolution, both as to my allowance, and cutting off the advantage of three Months Advance, and of the Twenty Days they once consented to, before my going, and excluding the Payment of Postage of Letters, which are rigours that appear to me so mean, that I should think them malicious if they came not from my Friends. But I have digested them, since you think it fit, and the Thousand Pound being, as they tell me ready, shall be gone, as I ever promised the King, within Three Days after I have my dispatch; and shall patiently the loss of near a Hundred Pounds out of my own Purse in Exchequer Fees, imposed by Sir *George Downing* upon the Money my Journey to [illegible] cost me, and the Interest of the Money together, which His Majesty commanded me to take up; and beside the Charge I have been at from the 12*th*. of *June*, to my parting from hence, both in *Holland* and here, with a numerous Family, which the King commanded me not to lessen, upon Intention of my Embassage to *Holland*, and your Lordship intended should be satisfied by my new entertainment, beginning where my old one ended, or at least near it. But men of more Power, or at least more Will have thought it otherwise fit, and let them go away with it. The agreement I observe in your Lordship's of the 25*th*, with my Lord Keeper's thoughts concerning my Instructions, make me believe they will come up this Night ready digested from you, for

the

[illegible] consideration of the Foreign Commerce to Mar-
[illegible] So that I [illegible] hand of Provi-
[illegible] precipice going
[illegible] yesterday, [illegible] Mens [illegible] does not ex-
pect this [illegible] I find my [illegible] almost
broke in pieces by the [illegible] pleasures that ne-
cessarily attend the entry of such a [illegible] party,
with all [illegible] necessary to it which is so
much the [illegible] Man [illegible] in his own affairs,
never [illegible] in haste.

Before I go, I take the liberty to trouble your Lordship with a Succession of my Follies, since you have [illegible] been contented to bear [illegible], and [illegible] you [illegible] *of before you left the Town, but should never [illegible] at leisure enough for such an employment, and therefore I [illegible] to leave it my Lord Keeper, Lord [illegible] going to Tunbridge, who profest to be pleased with [illegible] it gave him.* And because I imagine you are a perfect Reader, I send you inclosed in it another sheet, which I found this Morning among my forgotten Papers, by which your Lordship will judge whether I had reason to say, or your Lordship to doubt, that I could return with the greatest content to my former Countrey privacy, whenever my great Friends grew weary of me, or gave me occasion to grow weary of them. There may besides be something in it that will please you by moving the tender thoughts of a good Husband and Father, which I will not be ashamed to own after the custom of this Age; and pray whether you read them or not, be pleased to take so much care, at least, of the last Paper as to burn it.

I have one thing to make your Lordship before I go, and that is, whenever you find your self inclined to receive a worse opinion of me than you had at our parting, from the [illegible] of such as you take to be either my Friends or Enemies; that you will immediately and [illegible] tell me of it, and I will tell your Lordship freely, whether I deserve it, and never use any disguise to you, not so much as to preserve your Friendship, which is the greatest expression I can possibly make of that Sincerity and Plainness which has ever been natural to me. I have perhaps some reason to make you this request, and to fear the Envy of your Lordship's Kindness as much as the Malice of it. And so I wish your Lordship with all my Soul the continuance of your good Health and Humour, and a succession of your good Fortunes in all you propose to your self, and that you may in the course of them alter meet with men that love and esteem your Person (abstracted from your characters) in the same degree, and with the same unfeigned Passion as,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful, and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Rifwick, August 28. 1668.

My Lord,

THE Story of an untoward passage at Sea, is best told that it ended well at Land. About Nine a Clock on *Sunday* Night, when I came on board at *Rotterdam*, and under cover of a dark Evening,

[illegible] got [illegible] my Life and two Servants [illegible] Acquaintance; [illegible] was [illegible] give one day to settle [illegible] I had brought in with me, and left the Town to talk what was become of the Ambassador. This Morning I parted from thence at break of day, and came as privately to this place where I had a mind to be, that by the Neighbourhood of the *Hague* I might be there and not be there, as I pleased. [illegible] found it convenient to be more publick. This Evening about Eight a Clock I shall see Monsieur *de Witt*, but dare not trust to my giving your Lordship any account of it by this Post, which usually goes about that time at the latest, and therefore I resolved to write this empty Letter rather than none.

I am every day more of the opinion that I had reasons to tell your Lordship, I feared the King had spoiled a good Resident to make an ill Ambassador. And that the *Embarras* that attends that Character, would break my Head too much, and leave it indisposed for that little orderly Train of Thoughts it has been used to. This I am sure of, That if I may not have leave to sculk up and down *Incognito*, to dive and rise again, where, and in what fashion I please, or find convenient, I shall never be able to do my Business nor live my own Life, and no body can live another's. And yet I know not whether a wiser Man than I may not take occasion to call such a way of living, a wrong to my Character, and want of bearing up the King's Honour; though wherever I pretend to appear, I will do it as great as I can upon that consideration, and be as stiff in all points of Precedence that can enter into dispute, as if I affected it. But I hope His Majesty is resolved to be great in effect, and that

his

his Ministers cannot lessen him no more than all their Punctilio's can make him great, if he be not really, so in the considerations of his Neighbours, as well as his Subjects. One thing which brought all this into my head at a time, and desirous to know His Majesty's conceptions upon it, is a difficulty I foresee in Treating or Meeting with the *Swedish* Resident at the *Hague*, or the Minister that I hear is there from the Cantons, or the Emperor's Resident, with some of whom it will be absolutely necessary for me to enter into Commerce. For His Majesty, I remember, at the Foreign Committee, seem'd disposed to have me go as high as the *French* Ambassador upon those disputes between Ambassadors and other Ministers; and he, I am told, has refus'd all expedients of meeting them, because that would seem to bring the matter in question, and his Orders are positively to have it yielded; and I remember he excus'd himself from my offer of seeing him a-bed. So that I am told he has never yet met with any of them, not so much as in a Third Place by appointment. Now I confess, I should be apt, if my Business requir'd it, and Expedients fail'd, to go to any of them *Incognito* to their own Houses, and tell them plainly, I would see them there, since these difficulties which had not been raised by either my Master or he, hindred me from seeing them at mine. Or else make an appointment at Third Places or Parties of going abroad together in their Coaches, if I must not give them the Civility in mine. Upon all which in general at least, I should be extremely glad your Lordship would, by His Majesty's Order, let me know his thoughts. I find by this Letter you are upon all occasions like to know enough of mine to be weary of them, unless you can excuse them

upon that confluence [illegible] with I have been so long, and shall be always,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Rejwick, August 30. *N. S.* 1668.

My Lord,

THE day of my arrival in this place I sent to advice Monsieur *de Witt* of it, and to let him know, that though I yet own'd my being here to none else, yet I could not omit doing of it to him, nor dispose my self without seeing him that Evening at his House as soon as it grew dark, if it would be no inconvenience to him. I desir'd he would use no Ceremony with me upon the point of the first Visit, for he could not see me here, and I would visit him like an old Friend, and not like a New Ambassador. He returned me a Compliment upon my arrival, and said he was upon the point of writing to me, but since I would have it so, he would attend me at his own house, about my own time. I went accordingly with one Servant in a Hackney Coach, and we met with all signs of satisfaction on both sides. I told him, that tho' the King commanded me hither, yet I might truly lay my whole Journey to his Charge, and that without the consideration of his Friendship to me, His Majesty would have found some fitter Person for the Employment, and that without

without the advantage I expected from it in the whole course of my Business, I my self would never have engaged in it, but contented my self with some other Post of less Honour and more ease, and more suitable to my humour. He told me he had heard the King had told their Ambassadors, that he found there was a Friendship between us two, and therefore would think of no other Person but me to send over. That he was obliged to His Majesty for such a consideration, that he hoped it would succeed well, that God had blest'd us hitherto in all we had treated; and that proceeding with the same Franchise and good Intentions he doubted not he would do so still.

Upon this I made him the Compliment from His Majesty, as near as I could in the very words of my Instructions, which he seemed to take very well, and said it was very obliging from so great a Prince. That he knew His Majesty had a better opinion of him now, than formerly; That he believed he owed the first impressions of it wholly to my report, but hoped he had increased it by the sincerity of his Proceedings; That the King should not be deceived in him; That we had now little need of one another, but no Man knew how affairs might change; That in case they did so, as to give us any need of the States, His Majesty should find he had made a good Alliance; and with a State, that though it could not act with that suddenness and absoluteness that a King might, yet made up that defect at last, by firmness and constancy, to what they undertook or engaged. And that in case this State should fall into any Troubles or Wars, he doubted not, but they should find the same measures and good performances from His Majesty's

I assured him he had all the reason that could be to believe it, and it was a great part of my Errand here, to give the States all the Testimonies that I could, especially at a time that the World was full of Monsieur *Colbert*'s coming into *England* with the offers of all the advantages that could be to tempt His Majesty into other new and near Alliances, he said 'twas very well, and he was very glad to see that *France* used so much Art, and took so much Pains, to court both us and *Holland*; that it was the best mark they could give of considering us, and perhaps of fearing us; that he believed they would put all their present Endeavours upon dividing us, and play their game with *Spain* as that succeeded, but he believed our Union too well grounded to be shaken, and had received all the assurances of it that could be, by the account their Ambassadors gave of the King's disposition and firmness in it, and of the Ministers that were now in Credit.

Upon this he told me, that he feared by my looks and speaking I was not well. I confest it, and that I should not have stirred out upon any other occasion than to see him. He said I did ill, and there was no haste now, as there had been my last Journey; that he knew nothing that prest between us so as to neglect my Health. Upon which I said, I thought so too, unless he knew more than I did of any thing new like to arise suddenly in the affairs of *Flanders*, which His Majesty thought deserved the continuance of our joint Offices and Care for the preserving that Peace.

He said he believed not; and that the Winter came on too fast to leave any thoughts of new Action this Season. That Monsieur *Van Beuninghen* press'd all he could to have the Matters referred to Arbitrators according to the Articles of the *Pyre-*

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near Treaty. That *France* did not absolutely refuse, but said they were at least to end in that and not to begin; nor could it be seen whether that would need till they found whether Commissioners on both sides agreed or no. That for the present all we could do (and that he desired me to join in) was to press the Marquis to appoint Commissioners to meet those of the *French* for determining the limits. This I promised, and so that matter ended.

I told him before I went I must deliver him a Letter from *Un bon amy, & qui luy faisoit la justice de l'estimer ce qu'il meritoit*, and named your Lordship. He took it, and at your name, checking himself into a more serious Face (which is his manner when he seems to be attent upon any thing he hears or says) before he opened your Letter, he told me, *C'est un personne que j'estime beaucoup & je vous assure que le Roy est bien heureux d'avoire trouvè untel Ministre on nous dit tant de sa sincerité & bon sens, & aussi de son affection à nos alliances que nous avons toute la raison du monde de nous louer de Luy, & nos Ambassadors le font sur toutes occasions & l'espere que le Roy n'aura plus subject de changer de Main.* I told him your Lordship valued your self upon being a good Servant, and not *sur le Ministere*, which the King had derived into several Chanels, reserving the supreme direction of all to himself, and that he found himself so well in this Court, that they had no reason to doubt he would change it. He took occasion from this to speak of my Lord Keeper with much esteem, and I need say nothing of my own part upon this Subject; you will easily believe, it was to say all the ill of both your Lordships that I could, and so it past. I asked him whether the Prince was in Town, he said he was, and that

he had been long with him that Morning. I told him the King had commanded me to tell him how well he took the Expreſſions of Kindneſs he had made to the Perſon of the Prince, and that he hoped he would expreſs it in ſome particular care of his private Affairs, which His Majeſty heard were running to ruine; he ſaid, they were in ill condition, but he thought not ſo bad as they were ſaid to be. That he had that very Morning been inſtructing him in the buſineſs of the *Finances* of this State, as his courſe was to go over all the Matters that concern'd this Government, and the knowledge thereof would be neceſſary to make him fit for the Service of his Countrey; that he had taken occaſion likewiſe to put him in mind of his own particular Revenue, and hoped he would fall into the Care of it. He would not confeſs to know any thing of the *Princeſs Dowagers* thoughts to lay down the *Title*. I told him I had ſeveral Letters for the Prince, and deſired his opinion whether it was not fit to deliver them as ſoon as I could. He ſaid, by all means. I told him the King had commanded me to live with the Prince, as his Nephew and a Granchild of *England*, and upon that reſpect, by order of Council, I was to give him precedence upon all occaſions, and at leaſt to make up in reſpect whatever wanted in more material Offices. That upon this Subject I would tell him once for all, that I would rather quit my Imployment, than live with any conſtraint upon that Point; that I would deſire him to protect me in it, among any jealous or exceptious perſons, that might be among the States, and might be ſhockt at my frequent Converſation with the Prince, in caſe it ſhould grow between us; that I would aſſure him the direct Inſtruction the King had given me

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concerning that was to inform him, the desire and value of supporting himself wholly upon the Affections and good Will of the States, and not upon any private Factions. And that for my own part, I would make good my word to him, that neither in this, nor any thing else, I would not be the Man to deceive them.

He told me it was very wise in the King, and he firmly believed I would not deceive them, though I might do it easier than another, for no Ministers ever came to the States *avec plus grand privilege*, which being commonly taken in the worst sence, is all I shall repeat that was personal in this Conversation.

I would not lengthen it, or *faire l'empressé* by entring further into any particular matters the first time, finding he thought there was nothing that prest'd, and believing all was sound. The next time I shall fall upon the points of the Spanish satisfaction, the Guarranties of the Peace, and the Indian Company, for he told me whether I made the publick Entry and Audience suddenly or no, we could treat together of any Business as well as if the Ceremony were past; I am more particular than perhaps I needed upon this account, that your Lordship may be so too, in your Remarks upon it, and because I would be glad to know whether His Majesty approve of my manner in my setting out, both from what he found in my last Letter and in this, for if he does, it will be easie for me to go the same Track without asking any further directions, or if there be any thing I must alter, it will be better now than later.

Yesterday morning, I sent my Compliments to the Prince, and desired an Hour of waiting on him, but

he struck it that day upon his being just ready to go a Hunting, and desired it might be at Five this Afternoon, because he thought about that time he should be alone.

At Noon the Master of the Ceremonies (or rather I think some other title they have for it) came to me from the States, with a large Compliment upon my arrival, and an offer, if desired, to retain any time *incognito* at the *Hague* before my Entry; That I would come freely into the *Hotel des Ambassadeurs*, though it was not usual before the Ceremony was past, and that afterward I would take use of it, as long as I pleased, till I found a House fit for me. I gave them my thanks, and excused my not having yet given them advice of my coming; and accepted the offer of their House, where I think to go late in the Evening, and then make all Visits *Incognito*, as much as if my Audience and Entry were past; for which I am as fast as I can drawing all plans together. In the Afternoon the [illegible] Count *Rhinegrave*, Monsieur St. *Evremont*, and several others came to me, and I made some Visits after the close of the Evening.

The talk as to the News is, That certainly Don *Juan* will not come, but instead of that is confin'd to his Priory, and forbidden to come within Twenty Leagues of Court; and that in his stead comes the Constable of *Castile* with all the preparations that were made for Don *Juan*, and that he was last Letters at *Corunna*; That there are new Broils in *Portugal*; That Don *Pedro* leaves *des affaires*, and the other party is favoured by all the *Castilians*; That *Charles* Duke of *Lorrain*, who is in the Emperor's Service, is like to be chosen King of *Poland*, his Uncle offering Two Millions and a half towards it,

and the Duke of Newburgh's pretensions being much sunk by the French appearing in them. I am ever as becomes me,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, August, 31, 1668.

My Lord,

AFter so long a trouble, and it may be little to the purpose as I gave your Lordship yesterday by the Yacht, there were no Conscience in renewing it so soon, though I had more to bear me out than this day has furnish'd. Yet I could not but tell you that I have since seen the Prince and delivered him the King's Letter and Compliments, upon all which he said, what was very fit and well, and I think him in all kinds improved since last Winter. I acquainted him with the Order of Council about my giving him place, which he seemed to esteem, but said he gave it in his own House to all other Ambassadors, and could not shew less respect to the King than to others. I told him the Order said upon all occasions, and I was fit for me to interpret it in the largest sence. I sent this Morning to Compliment the Princess Dowager, and ask a time of seeing her, which she excused to Day upon the Princess of Nassau's coming; after a day or two I shall send again. This Evening

[illegible] Monsieur Lyonne [illegible] the 25th Town and desires [illegible] an hour to morrow Morning before he goes to the Assembly. None of the Savoys or Residents have taken notice of my arrival yet, supposing that be done after my Entry, which I intend about the 12th. of next Month, being Two Days after the assembly of the States of Holland, which will fill the States General, and the Town also, that is now very empty.

I hear ill news from Germany of the Prince Elector's having taken the Field with his Forces, and taken a certain Town possess'd by the Lorrainers, and that matters are unsound between him and the Elector of Mentz, the first being encouraged and supported by France. I am ever with hearty passion and Truth,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Septem. 21. St. N. 1668.

My Lord,

Since my last to your Lordship, I have had Two long Conferences with Monsieur de Witt; The First at my own Lodging before my Publick Entry, and Audience; the Second this Afternoon at his House. In the First, I entered more particularly upon the discourse of what we resolved upon our Maritime Treaty, and having already gained that point

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point of changing the form of Paſports, I fell into the Second of deſcribing what ſhall be accounted *non valæ hoſtilia*, and in ſhort went ſo far, that he aſſured me, in caſe the King would have it underſtood to have all the formality of a Seige both by Sea and Land, he would conſent to it; and doubted not the States would do ſo too, and yet give me leave to mark that theſe Two Points are all the exceptions that our good Friends could raiſe with all their induſtry, againſt any thing ſettled by the Marine Treaty, and the reſt are only omiſſions they pretend of things which ſhould be added, and which they could leſs promiſe themſelves by a meeting of Commiſſioners, than by the Treaty at *Breda*. And yet I am not at all in deſpair of compaſſing thoſe Two, if I may, as I hinted to my Lord Keeper, have my Inſtructions in this Point at large, ſo as I may follow it in my own way and time. One thing I only deſire as neceſſary in the caſe, which is, That what is given me in purſuit, may be no more than was propoſed to the Council, and approved by them, and ſo reſolved to be put into my Inſtructions before I came away; for I am apt to ſuſpect they know in general at leaſt what that was, and if more be added will eſteem it a new Impoſition upon the facility they have expreſt to yield to any reaſonable Propoſals; but I remember Monſieur *de Witt* ſaid, he hoped this would not be made uſe of to invite the *Eaſt-India*, or other Merchants to trouble the affairs with every appetite of their own, which would be very different perhaps from other meaſures of equity or reaſon in theſe Matters. I acquainted him with your Lordſhip's deſire that the beſt would be to get it refered to Commiſſioners and your reaſons; but he is pretty ſtiff upon the contrary, and thinks nothing but that can make it miſcarry,

miſſary, for thoſe appointed muſt be men verſ'd in that Commerce, ſuch will be Men concerned in it, and in that caſe he will not anſwer, but thoſe from hence may be impertinent from their own Paſſions and Intereſts on the one ſide, and ours on the other; whereas that which guides us in treating the Matter muſt be common equity unſtained by any private Intereſt of the Traders. And therefore he deſires that we two may try to agree all points together, before ſo much as any other Perſons here, any more than in *England*, are acquainted with it. In caſe we can agree the particulars, and your Lordſhip thinks it fit, I will endeavour to have the formal concluſion of it left to Commiſſioners, but that I cannot promiſe from any thing I can yet draw from Monſieur *de Witt*.

At the ſame time I had his aſſurance of imploying all his Credit, that nothing ſhould be innovated in their *Portugal* Buſineſs till Don *Franciſco*'s return, or an anſwer upon it from *Portugal*. Two Months after his arrival there, and for any reaſonable time more, I ſhall not deſpair to obtain it, if there be occaſion.

This paſt on *Monday*: on *Tueſday* I had my publick Entry without any ill Accidents, and ſomething very extraordinary, as every body ſays, in the Peoples concourſe from all parts of the Countrey, as well as their expreſſions of ſatisfaction; ſo that I think I ſhould have dyed with deſpite, if I had followed the advice which every body ſeemed diſpoſed to give me upon the Commiſſioners retrenchments of Ambaſſadors Allowances and Equipage, which was to live and appear low in proportion to it, and tell every Body the King was reſolved his Miniſters ſhould do ſo. As it was, for ought I hear, they are all ſatisfied, and it appear'd ſo by the ſame concourſe

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in all the Streets at my Audience, which was on *Thursday*, where they tell me all the Burgomasters of *Holland* were come together, as well as the States General; and it past as far as I could hear with their satisfaction, and I am glad 'tis well over.

On *Wednesday* at Night came the News that the Prince of *Orange* having pretended a Journey only to *Breda*, upon design of Hunting, was gone from thence to *Zealand*, where the States being assembled, he desired Entry, and proposed his being chosen *Premiere Noble*, according as had been done to his Ancestors at Eighteen Years Old, and promised to him at the same Age, which he was now arrived to, within Two Months. This was done with much expression of Affection in the States and People, and is thought not likely to stop there, but that it may proceed to the Election of his Highness for Stadtholder of that Province. The consequence of the First seems not great, further than giving a discovery of the Prince's disposition, which seems in this Action to be a bold undertaking, secret and *tyrants sur la finesse*. His Instrument in this Business has been Monsieur *Odicke*, though the *Princess Dowager* is said to have been of the Council. This Action has made very great noise here, and the consequences of it, I believe, no Man alive can tell; for as *Solomon* says, *No Man knows good or ill by what he sees before him*, Accidents enter into all Councils, and change the draught of them, and perhaps the greatest Wisdom is but the Skill of a Gamester at Tables to play the cast well. The *Spanish* Ambassador suspects I had a hand in the contrivance during the time of my being here *Incognito*; I told him I would not so much as take pains to say no, upon that Matter, that would be seen by the *Suitte* of it. However, I have spoken with two or three of the

States

States the freeſt that can be; and this afternoon with Monſieur *de Witt*, who call'd it all over, and very frankly and very coldly; and I believe will act ſo upon it, but yet ſtedfaſtly to thoſe Principles which all in *Holland*, you know are ſworn to. He ſays, there will be no ill conſequences of the Prince being choſen *Premiere Noble*, and that for his part, if his Highneſs had imparted his deſign to him, he ſhould not only have conſented to his attempting it at this time, but ſerved him in it. The manner he ſaid was *un peu choquant*, having come the day before he went out of Town to take his leave, and ſaid all that could be to diſguiſe any ſuch Intention which ſeemed to ſhow he would not think of living in any confidence with the *States* here, nor with thoſe into whoſe care they had given him. That if it ſhould proceed to his being choſen Stadtholder of *Zealand*, it would come to breed ſharpneſs between the two Provinces, that *Zealand* would pretend he ſhould enter into the Council of State upon that right, and by virtue of a former reſolution that the Stadtholder of every Province ſhould have that privilege, which was when every Province had that Magiſtrate, but now *Holland* had none, nor was like to have any, they doubted it would be hardly conſented to. Thoſe other of the *States*, I have ſpoken with, ſay more abſolutely it will not, and then I don't ſee what the Prince has gained by it, beſides entring into the *States General*, as deputed from *Zealand*, and repreſenting the Nobility of that Province. I told Monſieur *de Witt* all I had to do was to inform His Majeſty what had paſt, that I could not tell what his thoughts would be upon it, that thoſe I left him were, that the Prince's Buſineſs was to value himſelf upon the favour of the States General, and no particular Faction among them;

them; that for my own satisfaction was: That as our [illegible] while we were their Governors, for it was never in them [illegible] by their diligence we [illegible] as we pleased in the Affairs of Christendom, and give them such a balance as was needful, during all this time to check our [illegible], by the Greatness and Ambition of *France*, whose real interest it was now grown to divide us one from another, as each of us at home. I left him very much satisfied with their discourse, and offered [illegible] any thing I could towards the good [illegible] between the Provinces.

What concerns our affairs with *Denmark* your Lordship will receive by the next. I am with as becomes me,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Sept. 24. *S. N.* 1668.

My Lord,

HAving desired to know of Monsieur *de Witt* whether he found any inclination in the King of *Denmark*, to give His Majesty satisfaction, or send a Minister into *England*, which I thought the best way towards it; he told me the States had written to him, but had received an answer so slight, that he had made no haste to shew it me for fear His Majesty should grow more unsatisfied with it than he was before;

[illegible] but with [illegible] both the [illegible] of the Lords [illegible], desiring I would make good use of it, and communicate it only to your Lordship, who he was confident would endeavour to continue things in good temper, in which he would second you all he can [illegible] on this occasion; and if His Majesty should think fit either to signifie to the States or me, the particulars in which he expected redress, he did not doubt but they would again imploy their Offices towards the doing to induce him to consent to our injoyment of the same Liberties we had in our Northern Trade before the War, and in equality with the [illegible]. That he had disposed the [illegible] Envoy here to endeavour the sending over a Minister into *England*, which he was wholly inclin'd to, but said, that *France* did all they could to hinder it, infusing it into that Court, that whoever has any thing to ask ought to send, and bearing them up at their Stomach upon this occasion, as well as making more Court than ordinary of late to that Crown. The *Danish* Envoy's discourses to me seemed to agree with this, and I am apt to be of Monsieur *de Witt*'s mind, that *France* would be very glad to see us fall foul with *Denmark*, in hopes the consequence of it might be to break our good Intelligence with the States, and renew the conjunction with them and *France*, in the defence of *Denmark*, according to their Treaties to that purpose. I send inclosed the Copies of these Letters, and leave it before His Majesty to pursue that Affair in the way he thinks fit, making use or not of the States Offices in it, or as little, or as far as he pleases, for without new matter from *England*, the business rests here on this side.

I cannot hear the Prince of *Orange* presses on his Affairs in *Zealand* further than his Election of

Premiere

Province should, though the opinion was that I writ last, that it would be endeavoured to declare him *Stadtholder* of that Province, which would, I think, have drawn him into inconveniencies. I see none in this that is done; at least, if his Highness come suddenly hither and declare frankly to the States of *Holland*, that all his design was, only to obtain what was growing his due by the Promises of the States of *Zealand*, when he came to Eighteen Years of Age, and without the difficulties or opposition that the owning his design might have brought upon it; and that he intends to make another use of it than to employ his Credit for procuring all that can be the Union and good Intelligence between the two Provinces.

There is a discourse about Town asif Monsieur *Beverning* had been of the Princes Council in this Business, and as if he would undertake the management of all his *Finances* upon the Princess Dowagers laying down the *Tutele*, which I hear she profest absolutely within these two or three Days she was resolved to do, so as soon as the Prince came to Eighteen Years, which will be, as I think, upon the Fourteenth of *November* next. But I cannot find any ground for what is talk'd of Monsieur *Beverning* further than his Journey to the Burse of *Breda* about the time that the Prince past that way.

I hear this day from *Brussels*, that the new Governour takes no Authority upon him till his Orders come by the next *Spanish* Courier, and that the Marquis has thought to pass by this Country and *England* into *Spain*. In the mean time, I cannot hear one word from him upon the Point of the *Swedish* Subsidies, tho' I have written twice to him since I came hither; nor do I know in what part

of the World the Baron *d' Isola* is, the Emperour's Envoy here telling me, a day or two before my Entry, that he had not one word from him in Three Weeks. The Rhinegrave tells me the Prince of *Strasburgh* writes him word the Princes of *Germany* are disposed to enter into a Concert with the Emperour to keep a standing Force of Forty Thousand Men, for preserving the Peace of the Empire, and likewise maintaining that lately made between the Two Crowns. I wonder His Majesty should not think fit to entertain any sort of Minister in any part of the Empire, and make that good use of the Commissioners retrenchments in those Expences, to have at least some few more abroad, though in less qualities. I am ever with perfect Devotion and Truth,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Septem. 28. *S. N.* 68.

My Lord,

I Have since the receit of your Lordship's last, spoken with Monsieur *Meerman* about the Post Business; he assures me you are already in possession of every Letter from every Town and every Village in *Holland*; That you have nothing to complain of, but some Passengers that may chuse to go in the States Boat, which is a thing not worth mentioning, he says. That for the States sending their own Packet in a Boat of their own, is a resolution will not be broken; and

and in a word, I find both by Monſieur *de Witt* and him, that the thing which makes them firm in it, is not to yield to our pretence of the Dominion of the Sea, which we ſtreteh even to this very particular, with much warmth and circumſtance, as I find they know, and as I perceive by a long preamble upon that Subject to the Paper your Lordſhip ſent me over concerning the deſires and grievances of your Office; and this conceit is ſo far in their heads, and they are ſo bent upon having all things of this kind reciprocal between us, that I doubt very much, without that forward, and as they call it, preſumptuous ſtep of *Amſterdam*, the Buſineſs would never have been ſuffered by the States to come where it is.

When I hear your Lordſhip's Anſwer to my laſt upon this matter, you ſhall have a farther account of it, and of every thing elſe wherein you ſhall ever inſtruct,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt Faithful,
and moſt Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Octob. 12. *S. N.* 1668.

My Lord,

UPon *Tueſday* very late, the Prince returned to this place ſo privately, that I knew nothing of it, till the next Afternoon, and then ſent to welcome him, and deſire a time of waiting on him, which was given me the next day. I found no Man with him but Monſieur *de Witt*, who immediately

diately went out as I came in, only saluting me very kindly, and saying, he was very glad to leave the Prince in so good hands. I performed my Ceremonies according to my Orders, though with much defence on the Prince's side, saying, still he knew what he ow'd to an Ambassador of the King's. I was with him long and alone, which I believed I ow'd rather to Monsieur *de witt* than his Governour, who had ever been very diligent before in all our encounters; and to say truth, had good grace on the Pensioner's side, and I hope to live well and confidently with them both, imploying it as I have told each of them I will, to increase the Prince's confidence in the Person of Monsieur *de Witt*, and his kindness to the Person of the Prince; and both endeavour while I am here to do the Prince all such good offices with the States of *Holland* as may stand with the Constitution of their Government, and dispose the Prince to think his greatest advantage consists in the united Affections of this Commonwealth. And in this delicate pace I am fallen upon this is all the fineness I can find out to trust to, since I am of opinion it is neither the King's Business nor the Prince's to embroyl things here if they could, for if the Prince had need of a *Motto* he would be known by upon any publick occasion, and would employ me to make one I thought fittest for his Affairs, it should be, *Potius inservire Patriæ liberæ quam dominari servienti.* About Five a Clock last Night, I had a meeting with the States Commissioners here in my House, and Monsieur *Meerman* in the head of them, though Monsieur *de Witt* was the second Man in shew as the first in effect. They told me their Orders from the States were to confer with me, and desire my advice upon this present Conjuncture; that the unexpected accident

cident of *Spain*'s refuſing the *Swediſh* Subſidies and owning no obligation to that Crown, which was like to bring a diſorder, unleſs ſome Remedies were applyed with the firſt. To this, with long circumſtances delivered by Monſieur *Meerman*, I replyed, that I ought to have made this advance in demand of the Conference, in purſuit of my Inſtructions, which commanded me, upon my arrival to fall in diſcourſe with the States, upon the beſt ways to ſecure the Peace we had made with our Neighbours, by a concert in the offers of our Guarranties in the particular Means and Forces by which we reſolved to oppoſe the breaker of the Peace; and in drawing as far as we could, the deciſion of their differences to our Arbitration. That I had delayed it hitherto, upon expectation of an anſwer from *Spain* concerning the *Swediſh* Subſidies, which was to guide us in the affair. That I was now as much ſurpriſed with it as they could be; that however I muſt, after my manner, ſay very frankly, That I thought they might have a little reaſon, conſidering in what manner we had uſed them in the courſe of this Buſineſs. That we promiſed them the Guarranty upon ſigning the Peace at *Aix*, that immediately after we impoſed a great ſumm of Money upon them without their conſent, as both the Crown and the Miniſtry averr, and without entring into any Negotiation with them, and to diſpoſe them to pay it, declare we will not give them the promiſed Guarranty till that be ſatisfied. That in the whole Buſineſs of the Peace, we had run the common fate of Mediators, and made Enemies of both, having diſobliged *France* equally in the Subſtance, and *Spain* in the Forms. That our danger now was, either to loſe *Sweden*'s part in our Tripple Alliance, or elſe to make *Spain* grow deſperate by our hard uſage, and

fall into Treaties with *France*, perhaps for giving up *Flanders* it self; that all I could think of propoſing, was to offer our Guarranty to *Spain* joyntly with *Sweden* for the *Pyrenæan* Peace, as included in that of *Aix*; and ſo for ſecuring all the Dominions of *Spain*, as well as thoſe of *Flanders*, upon their engaging to ſee the *Swediſh* Subſidies ſatisfied according to our Propoſal, and at the ſame time to propoſe this to *Sweden* for their conſent, and withal to endeavour ſome moderations in their Subſidies by admitting ſeveral times of Payment. That all this I could only ſpeak of as my own private opinion and if theirs agreed with it, ſhould give notice of it to His Majeſty, which was all that I had in my power, and to follow what Inſtructions I ſhould receive upon it. They made me a Compliment of having hit perfectly with their ſence upon this matter in all particulars, to which they had only one to add, which was to propoſe to *Sweden*, that in caſe they ſhould fall into Action with us upon the Guarranty of the Peace, that *England* and *Holland* ſhould take upon them to ſecure them their monthly Subſidies during the War, according to the Rates agreed on, and to deſire Powers might be ſent to their Miniſter here to enter into Concert with us concerning the delivering of our Guarranty to the Crowns in the form above mentioned, and agreeing the Forces which every party ſhould furniſh towards the maintaining it. Theſe Heads we agreed we would repreſent to His Majeſty, and they to the States, as our agreeing Sentiments upon this occaſion, and that on *Monday*, I ſhould offer Monſieur *Appleboom* a meeting at Monſieur *de Witt*'s to give him notice of what had paſt at this Conference. Upon which I am to expect His Majeſty's further Inſtructions how to proceed.

Laſt

Last Night arrived the Count *d' Estrades*, who is said to come with intentions of making a short stay here, and that (as Monsieur *de Witt* tells me is written by private hands from *Paris*) this imployment is taken from him upon the *French* King's dissatisfaction with his having done so little towards the discovery or interruption of our last Winters Treaty here.

Upon the writing of this I receive your Lordship's of the 29*th*. which seems all answer'd by what I have already written, so that I have nothing more but to wish you a pleasant Journey, and to congratulate Sir *John Trevor* upon his entrance into a share of your trouble. I am ever as becomes me,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Octob. 16. *S.N.* 1668.

My Lord,

SInce my last I had a Visit from the Count *d' Estrades* on *Saturday*, having that Morning sent to compliment him upon his arrival, which he immediately return'd me upon mine, and let me know he had orders to make me the first Visit; his discourse was much of the disposition of his Master to keep what he has and offer at no more, and how little there was to hear for any *French* Ambassador, since the League which was made would be continued without further care, and new or nearer Negotia-

tions he did not see how there could be any betwixt his Master and these States. However he believed Monsieur *Pompone* would come hither within a Month after he left this place.

On *Sunday* I had a long Visit from the Prince, who seems something unsatisfied about the Business of *Terveer*, which is wholly undone by the change, and the Isle of *Zealand* a good deal prejudiced. He says he writ to the King about it, but had no Answer, attributes the thing to Sir *William Davison* first, and to my Lord *Lauderdale*, but believes there is Money in the case; and to say the Truth, one does not know what to make of it, when they say most of the *Scotch* Merchants here are unsatisfied with it, and have reason to be so from the illness of *Dort* Haven in comparison of the other. However I did your Lordship right.

On *Monday* Morning the *French* Ambassador had his Audience of *Congé* without much Ceremony, and employs this Week in Visits, intending to be gone the beginning of the next.

The same Day Afternoon, I had a long Conference at Monsieur *de Witt's* House with Monsieur *Appleboom* and the other Commissioners concerning the expedients to be found out for the satisfaction of *Sweden* upon the Queen of *Spain's* answer. Monsieur *Appleboom* stood pretty stifly upon the indifferency of *Sweden* concerning the carriage of *Spain* in this particular, relying wholly upon our seeing the *Swedish* Subsidies satisfied, and pull'd out the extract of a Letter from his Master, a good deal to the same purpose and pretty plainly intimating that they took us and *Holland* to be their Caution for those Payments. Monsieur *de Witt* cured him of that opinion by the draughts of our Instruments with *Sweden*, and afterward we fell

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into discourse of the whole, and acquainted him with what had past at our last Conference as the only Expedients we could think of for expediting the *Swedish* satisfaction, tho' we could propose them only as our particular Sentiments without any Power or Order from our Principal, but what we only intended to represent to them, as we hoped he would do to his, if he approved them in his own Judgment, and could propose to us no better Expedients which we should be very glad to hear.

He told us he could never think of any besides our advancing the Money, in case *Spain* delayed, and seeking our satisfaction from *Spain*, with whom they never had any thing to do, but with us only in the whole course of this Business; but since he saw nothing of that was to be hoped, he knew no other Expedients besides what we had proposed, which he desired might be given him in Writing, and desired Monsieur *de Witt* to draw them up, which he has undertaken; a Copy of which I shall send your Lordship when it comes to my hands, as it will do before it goes to Monsieur *Appleboom*'s, tho' I remember nothing in it to differ from what I writ in my last. The main point which is to be done in this matter is to procure Powers from *Spain* absolutely to be sent to either the Governour of *Flanders*, or some other Minister on this side, to conclude with Us, *Holland* and *Sweden*, what shall be found to be the common Interest of all, in case of the *French* breaking the Peace. For in case *Spain* can receive a Guarranty for all their Dominions from our Three united Powers, and to extend even beyond the Life of this King, I cannot imagine they will make a difficulty of paying the *Swedish* Subsidies, at least in divers Terms, nor of making the King some considerable advantages in private

for

for bringing so great a Work to pass, without which all the Building already raised will fall about our Ears. For *Sweden* without Money will be a loose Card in our hands, and *Spain* without their Neighbours taking more share in their defence, will be uncertain in the resolutions of preserving *Flanders* as it is.

For the extent of the Guaranty, I think my self sure of *Holland*'s entring into it, for the durance of it beyond this King's Life, I cannot promise tho' we have discours'd it; and considering what I have brought them to already, I do not despair of it, and see no other means of keeping *France* within its bounds, whereas one step more in their greatness makes them not to be dealt with.

I have had much discourse with Monsieur *Van Beuningben* upon this Subject, who seems wholly of my mind, and inclin'd to the strengthning our present Union all that can be upon this ground.

I have not forgot since my being here, what your Lordship spoke of the fitness to have another Ambassador in *England*, and if we could one from *Holland* it self, and some considerable Person. Monsieur *de Witt* still told me it was so ancient a custom to have *Zealand* furnish the Ordinary *English* Ambassage, and *Holland* the *French*, that he doubted it could not be alter'd; but I have been upon it again since Monsieur *Van Beuningben*'s coming home, and wishing himself might be the Person, tho' not for an Ordinary, yet for an Extraordinary Ambassage, till we were safe a-shore in the present Conjuncture. To endeavour or wish this, were an impertinent thing in a Man that had a mind to value himself by getting Business into his hands or keeping it there; but so the King's Business be done, 'tis very indifferent to me who does it, and

therefore

therefore if your Lordship thinks with me, that there would be honour or advantage to us in it, I shall pursue this Sence by those paces it will bear. I am ever,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful, and most Humble Servant.

W. Temple.

Hague, Octob. 26. *S.N.* 1668.

My Lord,

I Omitted writing last Post, having neither received any from your Lordship in three or four Posts before, nor any thing to say but what was due to Mr. Secretary *Trevor*, in answer to one I had newly received from him, and which I desired might be communicated to your Lordship, though perhaps it was not worth it, being only an account of my own Thoughts. Yesterday Morning early Monsieur *de Witt* came to me, and told me he thought it necessary to communicate what he had newly received from their Ambassador in a private Letter, which was, that the Ministers in *England* were not willing to entertain any Guarranty of the *Pyrenean* Peace, for fear of *choaking France*, but to avoid that, were inclin'd to pay a Third Part of the *Swedish* Subsidies, and leave the other Two Thirds to be satisfied by *Holland* and *Spain*. He desired to know if my Letters agreed with this advice, and how I interpreted it, and I found he was unsatisfied with it, and had reason to doubt he suspected it

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as the last Fruits of Monsieur Colbert's Negotiations in England. I told him I had not heard from your Lordship in formal Post, That by reason of the King's absence, there was a vacation of all Businesses. That what Monsieur Barrel writ must have been from private discourse with some of the Ministers, and not upon any resolution taken by them; that however I would confess, I thought it likely enough to be their opinion, for Sir John Trevor had writ me word that some of them were of the Judgment, That it were better providing for the present satisfaction by sharing with Spain and Holland in the Summ, than by a general Guarranty, because they thought that might prove of much more Expence, and was to be purchased by Spain at a greater Price than such a trifle as the third part of this Payment. But that I had no mention in my Letter of any such consideration as that of our caution in choaking France, he seem'd glad of it, and said there was nothing neither in Monsieur Barrel's Letter of any thoughts we had of entring further into the Protection or Alliance with Spain, on pretence of greater advantages, which made a different sence of our present unwillingness to enter upon the present Guarranty. However he thought that what we had proposed was the better way; First, Because Conscience and Equity was of that side, for it was evident by the Act given to the Marquis by me and Monsieur Burgerdyck, that His Majesty and the States had oblig'd themselves to the Guarranty of the Peace at Aix, upon the Marquis's orders for the signing it, and that we had used Spain hardly in refusing it upon the Swedish satisfaction, which the States had been induced to by understanding from their Deputies representations, that the Guarranty was promised the Marquis with the condition

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of *Spain* paying the Subsidies, as well as signing the Peace; but since he had heard from me that the last was only the condition, and the first but an instance made by us at the same time he had always been of opinion we ought to repair this omission towards *Spain*; and since the Guarranty of the Peace at *Aix*, did without any dispute oblige us to that of the *Pyrenees*, he thought it was very happy if only by a declaration of that we intended and were bound to, we could gain that satisfaction of *Sweden* from *Spain*, which they were not inclined to, and which since our proposing this expedient here, he had heard from the States Ambassador at *Madrid* was chiefly scrupled upon their opinion, that we intended our Guarranty only to *Flanders*, and leave the rest of the *Spanish* Dominions to shift for themselves in case they were attacqued by *France*, which they thought would be of no great advantage to them, because they could not think of having Peace in *Flanders* and War in other parts. Besides, for chastising *France* he thought, that could not be done more in substance by either us or them, than it was already by the defeat of their remaining Conquests in *Flanders*, and that in form he did not conceive this did it at all.

That we offer not any particular Guarranty to *Spain*, but only that of the Treaty at *Aix* and of the *Pyrenees* included in it; That at the same time we offer the same thing to *France* as we are bound to towards both, and is no more than what *France* must seem to desire unless they will profess to be unsatisfied with the Peace. That for the matter of their Intentions, if they aim at no more than they have already, they have all they can wish, in seeing themselves secur'd by the Guarranty of the Triple Alliance; that if their designs go further no Man knows

where

whence they may end, and we cannot too soon provide against them. That tho' he and the other Commissioners were of this mind * in the Conference, yet he knows not how far the States will consent to it, who had been always averse from entring into any nearer Tyes to *Spain* or favour to their Interests, which he had always reason to believe we were more inclin'd to. But however the Reason and Equity, as well as the Necessity of changing Interests with the change of Circumstances among Neighbour Princes had led him to those Thoughts.

* *In this place he added, That for our fearing the Guarranty to be engaged in greater expences, he thought this was the only way to avoid them, and that when Princes saw we entred boldly into the Guarranty they would think it their best game to enjoy what they had, and leave the World in quiet, whereas if they saw us tender of choaking them, or in the least divided in our Thoughts upon this occasion, they would by that it self be tempted to new Action.*

That for paying their share of the *Swedish* Subsidies, he did not believe the States would ever consent to it, having been ever positive in it; and besides other reasons, he said, it would be easier for them to raise a Hundred for any occasion in time of War, than Ten in time of Peace. The Nature and Constitution both of the States and People being here such, that they would give any thing when they saw themselves press'd by any War or Danger, and nothing where they were not convinc'd of their necessity, which they would hardly be in the midst of Peace on all sides, whatever the more prudent mens conceptions were upon it. That besides whatever Money we should give *Sweden* were better reserved for a time of Faction, since what was given now would be lost, and not the less necessary towards the confirming them in our Alliance if the War should break out, and upon all these Reasons he

was

was of opinion we had fallen upon the beſt expedient, and therefore had ſent Monſieur *Appleboom* the Paper he had drawn up two days after our laſt Conference, though I had not conſented any ſuch Paper ſhould go from me till I had Orders upon it. That therefore he had not ſent it either as from me, or from their Commiſſioners, but only as a draught of what ſeemed to be their ſence upon the Meeting, and that the reaſon he had ſo ſent it was, becauſe he knew ſomething was neceſſary to be repreſented in *Sweden*, to keep them in heart by the knowledge of our Care to find ways for their ſatisfaction, and what had been diſcourſed towards it, he was afraid would loſe in the repreſentation if it went from Monſieur *Appleboom*, and therefore he had rather choſen it ſhould go from him. And to ſay truth, knowing Monſieur *Appleboom*, I think he had reaſon in that. All I anſwered to this was, That I was wholly uninſtructed in His Majeſty's Thoughts upon this occaſion, and had acquainted them with all I could gueſs, by letting him know what Sir *John Trevor* had writ upon it, and that I doubted not to hear from your Lordſhip in a Poſt or two, and then ſhould not fail to communicate with him upon it, and doubted not we ſhould fall one way or other into the ſame Concert, ſince I was ſure our Meaning and our Intents were the ſame.

From this he fell to diſcourſe how unhappy it would be for any ſort of diſagreement to appear between us in our Councels or Actions, and yet if care were not taken on both ſides, ſome incidents or others would fall in, and perhaps be interpreted worſe by others than they were meant. That the Buſineſs of their Skipper in Priſon at *Harwich* went *de mal en pis*, that their Ambaſſador had ſpoken with Sir *John Trevor* about it, who confeſs'd

none

none could hinder the States from sending their Letters in their own Boats. That this was no affair of the Post Officers, but an *affaire punissable* for having brought other Letters than the Boats contrary to Act of Parliament. Upon which he said again, that he understood not what was meant by *affaire punissable*, whereby a Man should be clapt in Prison, and no body know by whom, nor for what; That for his carrying other Letters besides the States he was assured he had not done it, but the Orders were express to the contrary; that if he had, no action could be laid against him, but by virtue of the Agreement with the Town of *Amsterdam*, and then it must be laid by some of those with whom the Agreement was made, that they must never yield not to have a right of sending their Letters over into *England*, if they pleas'd, as well as we ours into *Holland*, and what they had now consented to in that case was only for quiet sake upon *Amsterdam*'s Agreement, and in compliance *a un si bon Ministre* as your Lordship. That otherwise when they talkt of the Act of Parliament, they did not consider, that neither had any Act of Parliament Power to bind any but the King's Subjects, nor had indeed the Act mentioned any such thing, as that no Letters should be brought into *England*, but in *English* Boats; and that he would send me the Act of Parliament to peruse, that he had offered the States, I would write to your Lordship about it, and endeavour the Poor Man's release, or else they must raise a Proces of the same Nature against the Master of one of our Boats, which would make an ill noise abroad.

I told him I had already written about it, and would do so again, that I was confident it was as Sir *John Trevor* said without your Lordship's knowledge,

ledge, whether without your Officers or no, I could not tell. That I desired him to have Patience till I receiv'd an Answer from your Lordship upon it, which I was confident would be sudden, and before that I could say nothing to it; but that as it was represented, I wish it had not been done. I have been forced to write now Thrice upon this Subject, because I foresee that *d'une Bagatelle se va faire une affaire*, for according to what I can gather from the Paper sent me over from the Post-Office, they would bring our Soveraignty of the Seas to be tryed upon this Point, and I imagine it might be tryed upon a Better, or else let alone. I desire your Lordship's Answer and Instructions upon it, how to proceed, for though Monsieur *de Witt* promised me, that at my desire they would have Patience till I receiv'd your Lordship's Answer; yet after that I doubt it will not be avoided their doing the same on this side you have done on that, nor will they ever be brought to acknowledge our right of the sole Postage, from any Soveraignty of the Seas, or otherwise than from contract with them. Monsieur *de Witt* shewed me another part of their Ambassador's Letter concerning the King's disposition to send a Minister to *Denmark* upon their sending one to us, and said he would both speak to Monsieur *Carisius* again upon this occasion, and make use of it likewise to write into *Denmark* now the third time about it.

Monsieur *Odyck* told me yesterday, that the Princess Dowager would this day lay down the *Tutele*. I wish nothing so much for the Prince's sake, as that Monsieur *Beverning* might be prevailed with to take upon him the management of his Finances, at least for a year or two, till they were brought into a little order. I know not yet which way, nor how far it

will be fit for me to move it, but should be glad to have orders in case I found occasion, to let him know that the King desired it, and would take it kindly of him; though perhaps I should never make use of it. I have disposed Monsieur *de Witt* to the sending Monsieur *Van Beuningben* over into *England* this Winter in quality of Extraordinary Ambassador, and promis'd him to dispose Monsieur *Van Beuningben* as far as I could to accept the Employment, but he is at present at *Amsterdam*, where I hear he is like to be Burgomaster, which is a Quality esteemed here above all other Employments. I have had a Letter from Major *Banister*, brought Prisoner from *Surinam* to *Zealand*, upon pretence of his having been one of their Subjects, and negotiated something against the Peace of that Colony. I shall use my endeavours to see the bottom of that Business, from the Allegations on both sides, and to have his Liberty granted, that he may go over into *England*, and give His Majesty an account of all that has pass'd there during his Employment and since, and know how far His Majesty thinks fit to concern himself in it. I am ever as becomes me,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful

and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague,

Hague, Novem. 2. S. N. 1668.

My Lord,

THIS Morning's Post coming in wholly empty from all hands at Court, leaves me very little to say; having not been able to find a time for a Conference with Monsieur *de Witt* upon His Majesty's Instructions about the *Swedish* Subsidies. I find several others inclin'd to it, how I shall be able to dispose of it I yet know not, and suppose the resolution will be taken upon the assembly of the States of *Holland* and *West-Friesland*, to which Monsieur *Van Beuningen* likewise refers me for the considerations of sending another Ambassador into *England*.

I have visited upon the Prince to give him the *Parabien* of his entrance upon the management of his Estate, and find by our discourses he will be pressing hard upon His Majesty for the Payment of his Debt; upon which I made him what replies I thought most suitable both to His Majesty's Intentions in the matter and condition at present of performing them.

On *Wednesday* Monsieur *Meerman* and one other of the Commissioners came to acquaint me with the States desire of inviting the Duke of *Lunenburgh* into the Triple Alliance, and likewise the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, in case his Minister here gave them any encouragement to it; and at the same time with their order to desire my concurrence with them in it, or if I were not instructed, my sending into *England* for Powers in those Points. I told them what my Instructions allow me, that I could assure them of His Majesty's disposition to the admittance of them or any other Protestant Princes.

But finding the *Swedish* Minister had the same desire made him from the States, and had only promis'd to write for new Instructions in the Point; I told them I had no Powers absolute to joyn with them, but would not fail to desire them by the first.

By the next I hope to give your Lordship an account of another Conference with Monsieur *de Witt* about the sharing of the *Swedish* Subsidies, in which I shall imploy my utmost endeavours.

I ask your Lordship's pardon for troubling you in my last, with the mention of my Payments due for the first Three Months, my Wife telling me she has brought me Bills for them, in which I acknowledge the Commissioners care of me, though it comes not by advance as they pleas'd to promise. But while they enable me to live, I should be very sorry to see any Man in His Majesty's Service easier contented than,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Decem. 18. *N. S.* 1668.

My Lord,

I Have just now received your Lordship's of the 4*th.* whereby I am sorry to presage to my self an unquiet station here, from so many Incidents arising between us and the *Dutch*; and the warm resentment of them upon the first representations of them;

them; what lies in my power shall never be wanting either for the obtaining His Majesty's satisfaction upon all occasions in the manner he desires, or at least the obeying his Commands without considering the issue, which is not my part. And to that end I shall endeavour at the same time to satisfie them with His Majesty's action in the sending the Dover Captain, and procure orders for the delivery of Jones, since I suppose the Captain, being but a Servant, in his detention cannot release him without commands from His Majesty; I have no reason on this side to doubt a good issue and redress upon all reasonable complaints, and the repairing as well as disowning all occasions which may be given for them by Officers at such distances, and against the States Intentions. That which I am sorry to observe is, a sharp humour in our Nation for the Interpretation of the least Incidents that arrive, which must in time come to be taken notice of by these heats, and naturally beget in them the distrust of our Friendship, and the Provisions for them to make sense of that coming to fall short. That which gives me these reflections, is my Lord Keeper's having written me word that Captain Woodhouse's detention was look'd upon in England like another Amboyna business. For Lordship's saying that Major Beecher's was interpreted as a mark of all the English being in Chains at Surinam, and I kept only a short note that we might not have the shame of it. Sir John Trevor, that His Majesty doubted he could not think fit to keep Peace that [illegible] ed upon Equality in East-India. I have rather chose to forget all this writing upon our discourse there, upon that of pulling down Arms, and manner of seizing a Captain for executing, as I suppose, his Commander's Order, and without any preceding de-

[illegible] Satisfaction. Master [illegible] tells me be-[illegible] there can be no such dilemma this, Mr. Roger [illegible] being sent by my Lord [illegible] to surrender [illegible] or remove the Planters, that charge having been committed to him and executed by him, pursuant to my Lord [illegible] Orders, of which he first gives my Lord [illegible] an account; that Mr. Roger [illegible] is upon inconsiderable [illegible] gone inland in Barbados for Trading among the Natives by virtue of the Language; That he went a year since from thence to the Barbadoes in very ill condition, to pass from thence into England. That for his own part he believes in case he has come since to Surinam, it has been upon some such adventure as that of Captain Baddam, or perhaps in revenge of his ill success.

I am, I confess, sorry likewise, that your Lordship answers beforehand for our being unwilling to the Spaniards, in case they can provide the ways of engaging us and their other Neighbours. Besides our Interest to preserve them in Flanders for considering the Spaniard's condition, I doubt whether their Provisions can go high, and if they touch the pocket of the Dutch, the Swedes, I wish they do not think, and perhaps feel, they go as far as they can in Protection, so that if their Neighbours interest in preserving them, which they affirm as much as their own, cannot assist them, I doubt in a war of the sort of Flanders, and that of [illegible] a Province wholly under them and their Protection, with the best conditions will be afforded them [illegible] look upon Peace as the best of all other conditions, but thinking we and our Neighbours shall [illegible] and [illegible] against France when ever [illegible] Flanders, must do, I believe we shall be well able to do it, after Spain

is wholly out of the Field, and the strong as well as great Towns of *Flanders* and *Brabant* in the *French* hands; so as *Holland* can have nothing as I see, left to do, but to play their Game under *France*, and leave us the Glory alone of stemming the Tide, swoln with the great accessions of so many several Streams, and blown up by the Ambitious Passions of a Young King. But I hope mine is a false Scheme, and that wiser men foresee other and safer Events, and so I leave them, asking your Lordship Pardon for all I have writ upon this Subject which belongs not to me.

If I said Monsieur *de Witt* spoke to me about *Dolman*, I ask your Lordship's Pardon, but believe I did not, it was the old Rhinegrave that did it both about him and *Fleswick*; but about the last I might say, and truly, that Monsieur *de Witt* likewise mentioned it to me. For the Council of Trade, I never heard it mention'd here since I came over but once by Monsieur *de Witt*, who ask'd me whether Sir *George Downing* was of it, saying further, that if he were imployed in the transactions a-foot upon the Marine Treaty, we should never be a good end of them.

I was sorry since he was with me, and told me the Propositions I gave in upon that matter were by order of the States of *Holland* referred to the considerations of the Deputies of *Amsterdam*, that he hoped they would return from them by the end of this Week, that we might proceed in our Conferences upon them, that he doubted not but all he had answered upon them would be yielded to me, by my further discourses upon that Subject. I am apt to think we shall differ upon no point but that of paying their Debts. Besides the reasons given by him and *Beverning*, which I think relate upon

that Subject, he insisted much this last Conference upon the newness of it, and altering the course observed by all Nations of *Europe* in the *Indies*, and so far by the *Portugueses*, that they defend all Commerce to other Nations, and make Prize of their Ships trading within 100. Leagues upon a Coast where they have a Port. But when I press'd the weight of satisfying not only His Majesty, but the Nation too, and thereby rooting the present Alliance in the very Hearts of the People; and how much that imported more than our bringing a little Pepper more than we used, or they a little less; he confess'd and said, For his own part, the thing as to matter of Interest, did not stick with him; for he believed they should gain more by that liberty of trading under us in the *West-Indies*, than we could with them in the *East*. But that which he considered and apprehended in it was, That by such an agreement we should wholly lose our main end of this Treaty, that was to take away matters of dispute, whereas he thought this must unavoidably engage us in many new ones. For being a thing never yet practised, neither would our Ports with any willingness obey Orders in giving free passage to their Ships, nor theirs to ours; but cross Interests engage them in ill humours, and so in quarrels upon every occasion. For trading upon Coast near their Forts, provided out of their command, so it be general, I am apt to think they would yield; for the Point as we propose it, I know not yet what to judge till our next Conference; I mean, by the States reference of it to their Commissioners, of which your Lordship shall receive the account so soon as it arrives.

Some days since arrived here Monsieur *Silvercrona*, in quality of Commissary Resident from *Sweden*, and

and to act in conjunction with Monsieur *Appelman*, (who has not yet either been seen or sent to me, for as I imagine he may engage this new character in the Precedency of those of Envoys. Monsieur *de Witt* told me, upon his first Visit to him, the end of his coming was to assure these States of his Master's firm Resolutions to pursue the Tripple Alliance, and even to enter into some sort of nearer consideration with these States in case it were found necessary. He told me, That as to the *Spanish* Subsidies he found very well satisfied with the Offices done by His Majesty and these States towards Spain in that matter, with appearance of considence they would take effect. He has yet demanded no Audience, and I know not whether he intends it in the character being wholly mutual. I am ever with perfect Devotion and Truth,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Decem. 19. *S. N.* 1668.

My Lord,

THIS will come to your Lordship's hands by Major *Danvers*, who has stayed with me here some days in his way to *England*, and thereby given me occasion of talking further with him, than perhaps your Lordship will have leisure to do; and by as much as I can judge of him, he is a plain honest Gentle-

Gentleman, as knowing as any Man in the affairs of those Countreys where he has in a manner spent his whole Life, and one of whom His Majesty may make good use by the Inclination he professes of returning again into that sunny Climate, and the Dispositions he seems to have of preferring the Ease of his Birth before any advantages he might make in any other Subjection besides that of His Majesty. By what I can gather from our discourse here, the Plantation of Surinam will never be maintained by the Dutch after the removal of those English among them, and next to having it Colony of our own, I esteem our Interest to have it none at all, for fear it comes to help down the price of Sugar from other Colonies. The English Planters there, he says, are all desirous to remove, and will follow him to any place His Majesty shall assign them. That which he proposes, is either some other part of the Coast of *Guiana*, where he seems to have hopes of finding the way to the Gold, so much dreamt of by Sir *Walter Raleigh* in that Coast, or else in *Jamaica*, where he says our great want is Planters, those we have there being rather Soldiers and Rovers at Sea, than such as will improve the Stock of the Island. Whereas he says, those Four or Five Hundred *English* now at *Surinam*, are as skilful and laborious Planters as any are in the *Indies*. And it seems to be the weakness of our Colonies in those parts, that our Plantations are so much and so thin spread; That to maintain or improve them in so many places, we must drain our selves more than perhaps *England* can well spare, whereas if we could fetch Wealth from *New-England* and pursue the beginnings of Silks there to perfection; and Wines from the Canaries Islands, which all, except *Fayal*, are upon the first

breath

breach with [illegible] Dutch and Danby, we need not [illegible] but fewer mouths about any other [illegible] since Jamaica, Boston, Salem and Virginia, do thought better than either of them. Besides, would certainly bring the best Spices, if the Plants were there. Of this likewise I have discours'd with him, and he tells me there were some of Pepper and Nutmeg once brought safe and growing to the Barbadoes, but pull'd up by the Negroes they could never know how, but suspected from some hired by the Dutch to do it. What has been since, by the same Industry may be again, and perhaps it were worth proposing it to the more knowing whether either Grafts or young Plants themselves might not be preserv'd the long-est Voyages, and through all Climates, if put fresh in Vessels of Oil. I proposed it to the Major and he thinks it might better be done by Cloaths steep'd in Oil, both which I mention to submit of [illegible] thinking on, as a matter of lowest gain in possibility, and which would soon [illegible] the Dutch [illegible] Trade. [illegible] likewise in his discourse, that of all Nations, the [illegible] Scotch [illegible] Planters, and [illegible] been often in thy mind, that both from Scotland and Ireland we draw too few into our Plantations abroad, and too many from England.

These are the chief points I could think in our Conversation, and which I trouble your Lordship with, because I know not whether the Major will have occasion in a Court to talk as he has done here; being we see by many of his Actions, and indeed by what he natural as they are, which recommended him much to me. [illegible] What His Majesty shall think fit to resolve about preserving his subjects from [illegible], if he finds it [illegible] for

[illegible]

My Lord,

[illegible]

Sir William Temple.

[illegible]

My Lord,

I Hally perceive by one I lately received from your Lordship, that the more I write to Sir [illegible] the more I shall be in the power of my Enemies: for the copies of my Letters, and of those to your Lordship, will not displease [illegible] though my foreknowledge of this, [illegible] made me take that way, which if it displease [illegible] have cause to be satisfied with [illegible] what large to him this Post, shall not trouble your Lordship about any thing like past [illegible] I am sorry for, and shall govern my [illegible] ter as you shall think fit to command me. Sir [illegible] Temple is a person I have much reason to [illegible] both for what he engages his Person and Character, and I doubt not but the King will be very well served, and your Lordship very well satisfied by him, but yet he is not my Lord Arlington, and much less so to me; and therefore whatever becomes of my Correspondence, I will tell your Lordship before hand,

[illegible] your Lordship turn off any [illegible] from your Lordship's Person, or any other Person with whom it is a Vertue to break off all other Relations whereunto you have brought me, and to leave me just where you found me. For besides other Inducements of Love and Court, that I believe may be true, that the first Inclination lasts even the deepest Impression, and is not worn out by new purchases. At least I am resolved not to [illegible] to continue longer in publick Employments, than I am born up by my being thought useful, and by your Lordship's particular Friendship, which was, both the Occasion and the Reward of my first coming in.

I have written several times to Mr. *Williamson* to know your Lordship's mind concerning two Correspondences which I engagd at his desire, and by his advice, one at *Brussels*, and another here, which gives me all that passes in the States, and is transmitted by my Secretary every Post to Mr. *Williamson*'s hands, though I cannot hear whether your Lordship approves them, and would have me continue to entertain them or no, or what you have allowed him of *Brussels*, who presses me in that point. I have not heard from Mr. *Williamson* either upon that or any other occasion, I think these Three Months, which with some advices given me of being censured there for my carriage since I came hither, makes me reflect a little of very frequent discourses which Sir *W. Godolphin* (in the time of our Commerce) made me upon that Subject of Mr. *W*——'s being my Enemy, and the reason I had to expect all ill offices from him. I know it was a Compliment in him to say it was out of Envy, but am sure I cannot think of no more reason he has from any thing else than from that, for he is one whose world

good

good Hours I always [illegible] and
Opinion whether [illegible] ve
said this, I shall [illegible] d
of what I formerly [illegible] ill
offices are done me, I [illegible] and
I will promise you not to [illegible] y
are True, and in the mean time assure your Lord-
ship, that you may have deceiv'd some few, but I
have never abus'd you in the good thoughts you
have hitherto had of me, by appearing any thing
else than what I am, either in the Sincerity of a
plain Man, or in the passionate Affections and Truth
wherewith I am as much as any Man can be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithfull
and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Febr. 5. *N. S.* 1668.

My Lord,

I Shall only say in answer to the latter part of your Lordship's of the 19th. that nothing ever went more and kinder to my Heart than those expressions by which I was so well and so obligingly assured of that which is the most necessary to support me in a troublesome and envious Imployment, having ever proposed your Lordship's Friendship for the best reward of my Endeavours and Successes, which I am sure had never come abroad, unless you had brought them and me together out of the shade, where I was very well content to have past a quiet Life. While I enjoy this end, I know

[illegible] I shall not waste Envy, whether any thing else be ever likely to raise it; and being satisfied the ill offices of such an Enemy cannot prejudice me with your Lordship, unless I joyn with it to give you cause, I shall very little trouble my self about the effects of it any where else, but as you advise me, learn to live with it, since most Men think that better than to live without it. I should never have understood what you meant by my making your Lordship's fortune, unless the Wise Man had help'd me, by saying, *That a faithful Friend is a hidden Treasure*; and in another place, that 'tis *the Medicine of Life*, which when all's done, is but Disease without it; though according to Mens Complexions, rather than their Fortunes, differing in its degrees and intermissions. But this I know is very impertinent to a Minister and at Court, and therefore I will leave it, to tell your Lordship what I have not done since my coming over: That upon more and familiar acquaintance with the Prince of *Orange*, I find him in earnest a most extreme hopeful Prince, and to speak more plainly, something much better than I expected, and a Young Man of more parts than ordinary, and of the better sort, that is, not lying in that kind of Wit, which is neither of use to one's self nor any body else; but in good plain sence with shews of Application if he had Business that deserved it, and that with extreme good agreeable Humour and Dispositions; and thus far of his way without any Vice. Besides, being sleepy always by Ten a Clock at Night, and loving Hunting as much as he hates Swearing, and preferring Cock Ale before any sort of Wine. I thought it not impertinent at once to give you his Picture, which the little Lines use to make like rather than the great ones, and the rather because your Lordship, I remember, was enquiring after it, when

I could not give it but very imperfectly. His Perſon I think you know is very good, and has much of the Princeſs, and never any body rar'd ſo much after *England*, as well the Language as all elſe that belongs to it.

To fall from a great Perſon to a little one, I will tell your Lordſhip I was glad to ſee t' other day in the Papers of News, Sir *Phil. Meadow*'s name, as imploy'd ſomewhere abroad. He is one I remember not ever to have ſpoken to above once, ſince our acquaintance at the Univerſity, which was a great deal, and I remember he was there a Young Man of as much parts, both fine and uſeful as any we had, and with it as virtuous Inclinations as I have known, and Principles very different from thoſe of the Party it ſeems he was ſince imploy'd by, and a moſt extream well-natur'd Man, and I have not yet obſerved any Man's natural diſpoſition chang'd, though ſometimes increas'd or leſſen'd by his Fortunes, and therefore I thought he might be a Man of uſe in ſome ſtation or other where he may be entring, and yet might perhaps want a juſt Character, which yet I would not have given to any but your Lordſhip, who I know deſire upon all occaſions to do the King that unuſual ſervice of finding out Men that may be fit for Imployments, which is an unknown advantage to any Government. Your Lordſhip, I know, will however pardon the trouble that comes from ſo good Intentions in a Man that is with ſo much reaſon, and ſo ſtrong Inclination as I am ever,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt Faithful and moſt Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague,

Hague, Septem. 3. S. N. 1669.

My Lord,

Having this occasion given me to trouble your Lordship by the conveyance of the enclosed, I thought it would be fit to tell you, that I had assurance given me by a good hand, that the Count *d'Estrades*'s Business last Week was to sound the Ministers here, how the States would be disposed to conclude with his Master upon the Treaty projected in the Year 63. for Cantoning the *Spanish* Low Countreys in case of the King of *Spain*'s death, or a new breach happening between the Crowns. I took occasion yesterday to ask Monsieur *de Witt* whether any thing of this were true. He told me that the Count *d'Estrades* assured him he came wholly upon his own private Business and had neither Commission nor Instruction to treat any thing here, but that among many discourses of Publick Affairs, he fell upon that of the Treaty of 63. And that he, Monsieur *de Witt*, had answered, The Affair was much changed, that *France* had so much more in possession since they were leagued with His Majesty and the King of *Sweden*, for maintaining the Peace of *Aix*, that at the end of their Discourse the Count *d'Estrades* had desired a Copy of that Treaty, and received it. But Monsieur *de Witt* assured me he thought, as he told the Count *d'Estrades*, that nothing could be now proceeded on in that kind, and that he was sure the States were firm never to make any Peace, nor receive any Overture in matters wherein the late Peace, and the Tripple Alliance were concerned, without His Majesty's intire concurrence. However I thought fit to

give your Lordship this intimation, and the rather, that you may judge how this agrees with the Spanish Overtures on that side; for though I am not apt to fear any thing here while they hope His Majesty will be firm, and live well with them; yet I know this Project is the most apparent way *France* can ever propose of drawing off the *Dutch* from the Measures they are now upon. I am ever with the Truth and Devotion that becomes me,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Sheen, June 8. 1674.

My Lord,

I Receiv'd this Morning one from your Lordship with the King's Command to return to *Windsor*, with what convenient speed I can, in order to my sudden dispatch into *Holland*. I should have attended His Majesty this Evening were I not hindered by an Indisposition, which I hope will pass in a day or two; in the mean time finding His Majesty is now ready for my dispatch, I shall neglect no time in it; and having already sent orders to my Servants at *London* to ship my Horses and Equipage as soon as they can, and sail with the first, to be there ready at my arrival. I have likewise sent to provide a Lodging at *Windsor*, so as to lie there on *Wednesday* Night, and there attend His Majesty's final

[illegible] and Commands, which shall be o[illegible] me, unless they have always been. [illegible] your Lordship will please to let the [illegible] rest always to believe me,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Brussels, July 24. *S. N.* 1674.

My Lord,

I Have taken no care in sending you any transcripts of my dispatches to Mr. Secretary *Coventry* since my arrival in *Holland*, because I know they are communicated to you, and shall only make you my reflections upon what I find on this side the Water, without the relation of particulars, which go the other way. The general humour in *Holland* runs wholly upon the Peace, and though they would be glad to see *France* brought a little more into temper, by the successes of this Campaign, and would fain keep their Faith with the *Spaniard*, who they say absolutely sav'd them; yet I do not think it will be safe for the Prince himself to stem so strong a current as will run into the Peace upon the end of this Campaign, the successes whereof must govern the Terms of it. For the *Spaniards* think they had better lose *Flanders*, than leave it in danger again after a new Peace as it was after the last, and so will not hear of it, till they see the effect of this

conjunction of Troops, which has coſt them, and the *Dutch* ſo vaſt Sums for maintaining as well as raiſing the greateſt part of the Imperial Army, and the Prince of *Orange* is, I hear, abſolutely of the ſame mind. The *Spaniards* interpret very ill the offers of His Majeſty's Mediation I made at the *Hague*, and believe it is upon concert with *France*, and to the end of enducing *Holland* to a ſeparate Peace from them. And this I ſuppoſe makes them ſtomach a good deal my Journey at this time, for nothing elſe could make the Count *Montery* uſe me as he has done in what paſt at my arrival here, tho' they will have it, that he takes it ill in particular, to have received no Perſon from the King, in return of the Prince of *Barbanſon*'s laſt Journey. I am ſure his carriage towards me, has not been what it ought to the leaſt Miniſter of His Majeſty that paſt through his Countrey, and what it uſed to be in the time of my Reſidency here. I confeſs I cannot but ſtomach it ſo much, (though every body would make it far from being perſonal to me) that I am Sick of every hour I ſtay now in a place, that I will not confeſs to love better than any other I know on this ſide the Water. I thought to have gone and ſeen the Counteſs of *Montery*, and ſaid ſo upon my arrival, but cannot find in my heart to do it now, or take any further notice of any old acquaintances here. You will beſt judge by the account to Mr. Secretary, of what paſt from the Prince, whether he had no mind I ſhould come to him now upon his march, either not to give jealouſie to the *Spaniards*, or not to enter into the talk of Peace, at a time that his head is ſo wholly taken up with this preſent Expedition. But I expected, I confeſs, either to have received a Letter or ſome Perſon from him, or at leaſt the notice of ſome Time or Place where

to

[illegible] but suppose he thought this the ei[illegible] keeping it at this time. I find here that [illegible] is in all his secrets, and t'other Secretary one in Esteem, and that he is made use of in all matters between his Highness and the Count *Monterey*, in whose favour they say he is very much, as well as in the Prince's. But for all the other [illegible] Gentlemen, I am assured he has done with them, and that his thoughts are at this time bent upon nothing but the success of this Campaign, which this conjunction will, I suppose, make very decisive in a little time. I think it is very well that Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* has received orders to follow the Prince, which may be very useful as well as cheap, being Domestick in the Family; and so neither at much expence, nor taken notice of as a greater Character would be, and thereby the fitter to observe the Dispositions and Actions that pass. The Pensioner *Fagel* told me just as I came away in secret, that the design of this Conjunction was absolutely to march into *France*, which made me see it impossible for me to follow the Prince, though he had given me encouragement, after I left him, to [illegible] which I owe perfectly to the Count *Monterey*.

I cannot but reflect upon the strange difference I find in the consideration I left of His Majesty in these Countries, and what I meet now, which is grounded upon the belief of his being not only so much in with *France*, but so much out at home, which a great deal of noise is made of here, upon the Business of *Scotland*, [illegible] what ground I know not, having [illegible] received no Letters from *England* since my arrival, which I hope to do at my return to the Hague, and to know something pleasanter from home than any thing I meet with abroad;

abroad; at least it will be so to find them not [illegible] what I shall be ever,

Your most Faithful and most Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Antwerp, July 28. *S. N.* 1674.

I Met yours of the 7th. here, with directions from His Majesty, in which my Judgment will absolutely concur with my Obedience. The humour of the common People, and of the Persons composing the States General, is chiefly to be made use of in promoting the Peace. The first are weary of Payments, the Ruin of Trade; The latter jealous of too great a Military Power, and the late change of [illegible] Persons have left great discontents. The Prince will not be dealt with upon this Point, till the Event of Campbeverg, upon [illegible] whereof his Mind is so bent, that [illegible] I had seen him fair upon his march. I had [illegible] Figure there far from what had been due to His Majesty's Ambassador, and had received those marks of the trouble of my Journey. He is at present violently in with the Spanish [illegible] Counsels, in a little time he may [illegible] more need of His Majesty's Offices, than he now takes himself to have. They have in their Eye either a Battle or [illegible] Provinces of *Liege* with all that Territory, or marching into *France* as they see occasion by the success of their designs.

His

[illegible] for Day enough to make his Master [illegible] his Language here, according to the Humour, whose coldness at this time may not perhaps be ill dealt with by seeking him so much, while we make him believe we have need of him, when he thinks he hath none of us. Upon the whole, though I could not but resent the manner of this Affair in the manner it passed both from him and the Count *Monterey*, yet I think it hath happened for the best, since the Compliment is fully made by my Journey. Yet the Prince will not see the bottom of His Majesty's Intention towards him, or concerning the Peace, till the force of this great Conjuncture be over.

W. Temple.

Hague, August 7. 5. N. 1674.

I Am never so confident of my self, as not to suspect, as I ought, the opinion of my friends, and often [illegible] upon that of my [illegible] and therefore [illegible] to receive [illegible] Majesty's full Approbation of my [illegible] Conduct in my late Journey, and your Letter [illegible] much, that I could not see what [illegible] done with Honour to His Majesty, nor [illegible] you to be made in the Service I had [illegible] met with since that [illegible] in the Scene than the Prince's carriage to me, whether the civilest way he could choose of avoiding me. For though I received not a word in answer of the two first Letters I sent him, the first to acquaint him with my resolution of waiting

on him as soon as possible: I could from the [illegible] and the other to desire his orders at [illegible] to attend him; yet having in a third [illegible] upon my return, mentioned my hopes of coming [illegible] when I had put my self in Equipage to follow him in the Camp, if His Majesty commanded me. I receiv'd the Letter, which I send a Copy of last Post, by an Express that had order to mark the hour of its delivery, by which he referred seeing me till the end of the Campaign; and having said something of the same kind in a Letter to Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* from *Brussels*, with an account of all that had past in my Journey, that the Prince might see I took notice of it, though I express'd no resentment. I have a Letter since from Sir *Gabriel*, wherein he tells me the Prince, *l'avoit prié de me faire ses excuses de ne m'avoir pas écrit plus tard que il estoit marry peine de venir si long, mais qu'il craignait assure que cela ne pouvoit estre qu'a la fin de la Campagne.*

Sir *Gabriel* adds, that hereupon he ask'd the Prince, if he thought it fit that I should send his Highness the Letters I had for him, and write to him what answer to send from His Majesty; but that he answer'd [illegible] and thereupon Sir *Gabriel* leaves me to do, *ce que trouverai plus à propos.* [illegible] receive Orders from His Majesty, I [illegible] and write Letters, nor write any [illegible] and for my going, I [illegible] Commands by Mr. Secretary's Letter, [illegible] without positive Orders for it to [illegible] may assure me of a [illegible] the last (which are Mr. Secretary's words) I do not expect it till the force of this present conjuncture be over. For the Count *Monterey*, I will tell you more particularly that which pert'd me most.

with, besides refusing me his Coach to go but four Leagues the Afternoon I arrived, and directing me to go by *Antwerp* and *Terlemont* some seven Leagues about, because he might excuse lending me any Guards, he kept me in suspence from Two a Clock till Ten, before he would promise to let me have Fifty shabby Horse, whereas but Two Nights before, he would not suffer *du Moulin* to go from *Brussels* to *Louvain*, without Fifty of his own Guards. And all the time I staid at *Brussels*, there was not one person of all my old acquaintance there that ever took notice of me, but only Count *Egmont*, who is the only Man of Quality there, that is taken to be ill with him and the Government. The truth is, I have been formerly so well used wherever I carried the smallest Character from His Majesty, that it went to my Heart to be so much the contrary now; and I long for nothing so much as to go once more and give Law from His Majesty, as I have formerly done, and may I am sure again, if the King continues his dispositions I hear he is in, of meeting and living well with his Parliament next Session, and thereupon appear to be supported by them in the Measures he shall take. For to tell you plainly, their Eyes here and in *Flanders*, are all turn'd to expect our Measures from what happens in this Point, and will not believe either the King's Revenue or *Menage* to be such as to enable him to live any time without depending upon his Parliament.

I allow Monsieur *Odyck* to entertain you so much better from hence than I can do, and to tell you so much more of the Prince's dispositions and designs, that I am very glad to hear at last he is upon the point of going over. I know not how it came about that Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* upon Mr. *Dalfrode's* meeting

ing him within a League of [illegible] from the Prince to me, and [illegible] rand he had been upon, would [illegible] to take Notice of me so far as by [illegible] pretending it seems he expected [illegible] to him whereas I [illegible] being there, but [illegible] was [illegible] him from [illegible] from him, so as [illegible] well pleased, that [illegible] gave him a better occasion of being there, which for my part, I think may be very convenient for the King's Service, and [illegible] for, your Sense of the motions he had [illegible] may have given it another light in [illegible] you. What good opinion I [illegible] upon the smallest point of my Conduct, because I believe you are in your nature, [illegible] as well as kind to me.

W. Temple.

Hague, Aug. 14. S. N. 1674.

ON *Saturday* last I received yours of the 28th. past. I shall say nothing of the representations made by Sir *Gabriel Sylvius*, concerning what happened between the Prince and me, not only the Prince's Letter, but Sir *Gabriel*'s own to me since, out of which I sent you some Periods to make it plainer than I desire to do, for otherwise I should have related some other Circumstances which are better let alone. I very willingly pursued your directions

[illegible] the Prince, [illegible] my [illegible] [illegible] con- [illegible] stood [illegible] next day with [illegible] I enclosed both [illegible] the Prince in one [illegible] on *Saturday* in [illegible] being no other [illegible] with the Camp. [illegible] Sir *Gabriel*'s compliments that I [illegible] the Sight in my last, to which I shall only add this in answer of yours. Mr. *Bulfrode* [illegible] from the Prince met him at his Quarters, [illegible] half a League of *Louvain*, and left him a-bed about Eleven at Night. He told him of my [illegible] at *Louvain* by Nine next Morning, but Sir *Gabriel* was pleased to take no notice at all of it, [illegible] by the least remembrance, only took it I did not write to him, said he was to march early next Morning with the Rear of the Infantry, which he was ill, and was so far from giving any [illegible] towards my following the Prince, that he told Mr. *Bulfrode* he believ'd his Highness would be near *Namur* next Morning. I told you I did not write to him at first, because, I had been chid'd at *Antwerp* of his return from the Camp. That which made me send my Letter to the Prince by Sir *Walter Vane's* enclosure next day [illegible] because Mr. *Bulfrode* told me he left Sir *Walter Vane* very near the Prince, and Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* so far as not like to be with him in any time. And besides, I sent it by a Gentleman that went immediately to Sir *Walter* upon his own occasions, which I thought the best opportunity of conveying my Letter. Perhaps upon all this I might

have

[illegible]

Skill

[illegible] forming the endeavours towards it. [illegible] in this Point, as in that of our Gar- [illegible] very touching, and hanging it much [illegible] Spoils it, makes it either fall [illegible], or keep ill after it's gathered. This [illegible] ever since I missed seeing the [illegible] Action of this Campaign, must [illegible] of a Peace begin to [illegible] Treaty's Offers, besides [illegible] already passed, may arise more [illegible] from the Scene, as it shall be at that [illegible], than there is now, which may be very different. And if the Prince of *Conde* pursues his point of keeping himself intrench'd, and not fighting, and the disorders as well as want of Provisions, which are agreed to be already in the Confederate Army, should continue, the Campaign would, as you judge, look very likely to end without other great effect than the weariness of all parties, and to make way for a Peace. But that which they reckon upon here is the Confederates marching into *France*, which I confess I cannot well understand, when they are to leave 40000 Men at their Backs.

For what you say of your own particular, you know what my opinion has been of it; but you are so good a Judge of your own affairs, as to need no body else upon what concerns you. I cannot dissemble, that it will give quite another Air and Taste to all my Imployments here, when I find my Correspondences devolved upon other hands, and thrown so much out of yours, as you made me apprehend at my coming away, and therefore for my own sake as well as better reasons, I should be very glad, you could resolve to keep your Post till you meet with a Person that you think were able to serve the King in it better than you, and whenever you do that,

I believe you will

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Foreign Affairs,

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P. S.

Since the Writing of this in the Morning, is come in the unexpected News of a Battle, but without particulars that seem to be relied on. I have taken care that what can be had from Count Wal-deck's Servant himself, [illegible] shall go in my Secretary's [illegible] Secretary Coventry. In the [illegible] of what comes from all hands [illegible] in theſe Points, That the Prince of [illegible] the Rear of the Confederates [illegible] by him, with an Intent of [illegible] That he fell in with great Bravery and [illegible] ter, and poſſeſt himſelf of all [illegible] till the *German* Troops came in. That theſe fought the braveſteſt that could be, and the Prince of *Orange* very well, and the accounts here ſay, the *Spaniards* not well at all, the Prince himſelf moſt extream gallantly in his Perſon, and for ſeveral hours in the very hotteſt of the danger, and where moſt were kill'd. That it was fought from Eleven in the

Morn-

Morning till Ten at Night, and with very great [illegible] on [illegible] Side, [illegible] 15000 Men, and have they ſay much the greater number of the *French*, who they ſay [illegible] retreated, and left the Prince in the Field, and with a reſolution to begin the Fight again the next day, being the Twelfth. Very many of the *Dutch* Officers are wounded, as Count *Waldeck*, the Prince, and Monſieur *Overkirk*, but the laſt they ſay not in danger. *Langrat* with ſeveral Colonels killed, and Prince *Maurice* thought to be ſo too, becauſe not heard of. The States have yet no Letters, and they believe the action not ended when theſe Advices came away.

Hague, Octob. 16. S. N. 1674.

THE laſt Packets brought me yours of the 29th. paſt, which was in all parts of it, both uſeful and welcome to me, excepting only the excuſes it begins with upon the arrear you mention of ſo many Letters during your illneſs and abſence from Town; for neceſſary any ſuch expreſſions were to me, you will eaſily believe, by my having continued conſtantly my courſe of Writing whenever I had any occaſion, which I did and ſhall do upon the belief you are content it ſhould be ſo, whether you write or not, till you diſcourage me in it. I was very glad to find, by the ſtyle of your Letter, that your Health was grown better, and your Temper not at all worſe, ſince the ill-accidents that have lately fallen out, enough indeed to ſhake them both, if they had not been firm at bottom. The beſt wiſh I can make you is, that you may long enjoy and continue them both, eſpecially that *æquam rebus in arduis ſervare mentem*,

[illegible]

the Prince, by the comm[illegible]
ſubſtance of his [illegible]
right understood [illegible]
produce [illegible] good
direct [illegible] from [illegible]
or at leaſt by introducing time in [illegible]
fer into the Overtures and Negotiation of Peace, when
I ſee the Prince which cannot be far off. In the
mean time, I have immediately upon the receipt of
yours written to his Highneſs juſt the Points you
directed me, and in a manner the very terms you
gave me, deſiring to know whether he will have me
attend his return hither, or ſend me his Commands
by Monſieur *Zuylt*, or any other Perſon, or have
me wait on him in any place or time he ſhall pleaſe
to command.

I have never heard from him ſince I gave his Highneſs an account of what I ſaid to the States at my
Audience, and thereon the ſcope of [illegible]
diſpoſitions concerning the Peace, with the [illegible]
of his Mediation, which made me think he would
be ſtanch in all that matter, till the Campaign ſuc-
ed, and perhaps the colder he is, the leſs he ſhould
be preſs'd, till the courſe of things and occaſions bring
him about, and diſpoſe him rather to ſollicite His
Majeſty's offices than decline them. This I believe
may happen at his return hither, eſpecially if *Grave*
ſhould be taken, which would ſtill increaſe the vio-
lent inclinations to the Peace, which increaſe every
day in theſe Provinces, eſpecially that of *Holland*,
and moſt of all in the Town of *Amſterdam* which

begins

begins to apprehend a loss of Trade that will be hardly recovered, after any long course into another Channel. By what I can find from Don *Emanuel de Lyra*, the dispositions at *Madrid* are strong towards a Peace too, so it might leave no prospect of a new War. And though I suspect the intentions at *Vienna* upon the Emperour's power at home, as well as his consideration abroad, encreasing so much and so evidently by the continuance of the War, yet knowing how absolutely that Court must depend upon *Spain* and *Holland*, from whom they draw the Subsidies that maintain their Armies. I am of opinion, that not only His Majesty's Mediation would be easily accepted by all Parties, but the absolute Arbitrage of all Matters in difference would be left in his hands, in case the Confederates were but possessed with an opinion of His Majesty's being impartial in the Matter; to which I hope his last Discourses with the Marquis *de Frezno*, and Letter to the Prince may have a great deal contributed.

The Emperour's Resident here told me two days since, that Court was resolv'd to accept His Majesty's Mediation, *mais tour jour sous l' aduen de l' Espagne*, and that they were upon choice of a Person to be sent over suddenly with publick Character into *England*. The *Dutch* Minister writes to the States, that the Emperour will not accept the Mediation till His Majesty's Forces are recall'd out of *France*; but the Resident here says, there is no such condition mention'd, though he adds modestly, it would be a great inducement to the Emperour, and help to satisfie the Princes of *Germany* with the Emperour's coming to that resolution, who took it to heart, to see such a Body of *English*, *en toutes les demeslees que Monsieur de* Turenne *avoit eu avec l'Empire durant toute cette Campagne*. Besides, I must needs

tell you that the *Dutch* Ambaſſadors have made ſuch Repreſentations and Intentions of our Court being ſo abſolutely in favour of *France*, that they are very apt here to interpoſe the Inſtances we make towards a Peace to be concerted with *France*, and ſome of them tell me plainly and frankly, they know the King would not make them, if *France* did not deſire the Peace, and find it neceſſary for their affairs. When I ſay their Ambaſſadors, I do not mean Monſieur *Odyck*, nor what they have written ſince his being there, but I reflected upon a paſſage which one of the States told me was in a late Letter from the other Ambaſſadors, which was Monſieur *Odyck*, *nous aſſure que le Roy a des fort bonnes diſpoſitions pour noſtre Eſtat.* The Action near *Strasburgh* will prove, I believe, at laſt to have been a drawn Battle, and leave each party the pretence of a Victory, as I ſee it has done of the Field. I am ſorry to hear His Majeſty's Subjects have ſuffer'd ſo much in it, and doubt it will make way for a greater Battle ſhortly, in caſe the *Brandenburgh* Forces come up, on the *Imperial* ſide; and both the Troops of the *Ban*, and detachment from the Prince of *Conde* on the *French*, both which I find are ſuddenly expected.

They begin now to apprehend *Sweden*'s entring into the War, which muſt engage *Denmark*, and open a greater and a longer Scene in all appearance, and leave His Majeſty the only Mediator in ſo general a Quarrel. This is too long a Letter to one that is engaged in ſo many other thoughts, and yet it muſt not end without my being ever,

Your moſt Faithful and
moſt Humble Servant,

Lord Chamberlain,

W. Temple.

Hague,

Hague, Octob. 15. *S.N.* 1674.

May it please your Highness,

IN my last, I gave your Highness an account of what I said to the States at my Audience, and therein the general scope of my Embassy as to what concerns His Majesty's dispositions, both in relation to his own Peace with these Countries, and to the general Peace of Christendom. Your Highness will have received before this comes to you, and from His Majesty's own hands, and at length, what you could desire more of His Majesty's particular kindness to your Highness Person and Interests, and of his Intentions upon the subject of the Peace, both as to the preservation of *Flanders*, and Guarranty of the Peace if it were once concluded, towards which your Highness must furnish the first Materials.

I am in some impatience to know what effects this last of His Majesty's may have had upon your Highness's thoughts, and whether you may have it in your Power or your Disposition to give any particular answer to that Point, where His Majesty chiefly desireth and expects it. If upon this occasion your Highness hath any Commands to lay upon me, I should be very glad to know whether you please to have me attend them here till your return to this place, or think fit to convey them to me by Monsieur *Fagel*, or any other person; or whether you will command me to wait upon you at any place or time you shall please to appoint. In the mean time I pray God continue your Highness's health and safety, according to the constant wishes of,

SIR,

Your Highness's most Faithful, &c.

My Lord,

I Have only time to tell you, I have receiv'd your kind Letter of the 15th instant, and to let you know I have answered His Majesty's Letter you do mention, I hope it will be satisfactory; and when I have more time to discourse it with you, I do not doubt but that you'll confess I am not able to go any further. I wish you may be perswaded, at the same time I am undesignedly,

My Lord,

Your most affectionate Servant,

From the Camp before *Grave, Oct.* 27. 74.

G. Prince *d'Orange.*

Hague, Novem. 13. *N. S.* 1674.

I Have given His Majesty a particular account of the best observations I could make upon my first Audience from his Highness, and a Visit he has since made me, besides what I writ to Mr. Secretary *Williamson* the day of his Highness's arrival. By all which you will judge what sort of Dispositions you have to deal with in this Prince; little favourable I doubt to the designs of a general Peace, as little inclined to the unactive Life which such a Scene must introduce. Besides, he finds his Authority rise with his Credit among the People here, by every success of his Arms, which is attributed personally

to him, while the want of it in the Confederate Armies is laid wholly upon the Conduct or qualities of the other Generals. He has a very good opinion of his own Troops, and a very great one of the *Germans*. Believes, if the Count *de Souches* had pleased, the Prince of *Condé* had been certainly beaten at *Arnheim*, and reckons, that by a better Contribution of the Imperial Court and Ministers, the Confederates may hope for more Honour next Campaign than they had this. On t' other side he thinks *France* will find it hard to furnish so many and so good Men as *Germany*, and that if they lose this Conjuncture to free themselves and *Flanders* from any further fears that way. Besides, what I gather from himself, I hear all that have attended his Highness this Campaign agree, that he is pleased with the Life, both the Fatigue and the Dangers he meets with, which have great effects upon the Soldiers kindness to him, and must cost him but little, if it be true what the Ministers say, That he believes the point of Predestination, the firmest that ever any body did, and laughs at any body that speaks modestly of it.

All these Points look dangerous to the Peace; now those that look favourable, are the general dispositions of the Towns here upon the point of Trade, the jealousie of our getting into a possession of it too far to be retriev'd, and under hand, of the Prince's growing too far into the sole Influences upon the State, The Business of *Messina*, which if it grows higher, and the Contagion reach *Naples*, as well as other parts of *Sicily* (as is discoursed here) would make *Spain* glad to secure those parts by the exposing of *Flanders*, a little more than they would otherwise be content to do.

And lastly the engaging of *Sweden* in the party of

France by open Action, (since the agreements between them are no longer, I think, a secret any where) which might change the Scene in the affairs of *Germany*. I know not what to say to the talk here that runs privately (but among persons of the State) of the Conspiracy of Prince *Lobowitz*, and others at *Vienna*, having reached as far as the Emperour's Life; and as the Mother of the Empress having had part in it, or of the sharp resentments of that Court against *France* upon such pretences. But I look for all the difficulties that can be given the Peace from thence, upon several regards, which I have formerly touched, and am still as apprehensive of as before, by what I hear from all hands.

I thought it not unnecessary to mention all these Points, that His Majesty might have the fuller light towards the first steps he shall make in this matter, after the acceptance of his Mediation from all parts, and the answer he has received from the Prince to his last Letter upon this Subject. And tho' perhaps, His Majesty may not think fit to signifie upon what Terms he would have the Peace made, as the Prince has desired him; yet since some ground to work upon will be expected from His Majesty, it may not be amiss to say, that upon such or such Terms His Majesty has some hopes of inducing *France* to an agreement, and leave the draught of them with the Prince of *Orange*, whose answer upon it will give at least some entrance into this Negotiation. I am ever and very unfeignedly,

Your most Faithful, and
Lord Chamberlain. *most Humble Servant,*

W. Temple.

Hague,

Hague, Novem. 20. *S. N.* 74.

I May very truly tell you that I have never yet received any News in this Countrey as long as I have known it with so much pleasure as I did yesterday, what yours of the Third brought me, concerning your Journey designed so suddenly this way, I hope His Majesty has alone the Honour of this Motion, which I take to be the best that could have been played in the present Game, and that you will have the Honour of improving it as far as I have reason to expect from what I know of your Skill as well as your Application in a matter which His Majesty has at heart.

Monsieur *Odyck* had writ it to the Prince, as you guessed, by the former Packet, but with so much uncertainty, that his Highness took it but as an Imagination of his own, but yesterday (by the same Packet with mine) he had the certainty of it, by a Letter which came to him in my house, where he talk'd a good deal of it, but privately. I will say no more, because I have no other reason to say any thing at all now, besides what is given me by this *East* Wind, which looks as if it might retard your Journey, as well as hasten my Letter; I wish it may turn quickly and give me a pleasure I so much long for, of embracing you here, and giving you all the best Testimonies I can, of my being ever

Your most Faithful Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Jan. 22. *S.N.* 1675.

May it please your Majesty,

SInce my last, I heard of a long Letter come hither from the Count *d'Estrades*, to the late Pensioner of *Maestricht*, by whose Intervention the said Count at first began, and hath since manag'd a secret Correspondence here with the Pensioner *Fagel*, and by his conveyance with the Prince. I gave your Majesty some former notices of it by your Secretaries, and find, that since that time it has run coldly, and most upon a Treaty of Commerce, and a Cartel for Prisoners. But hearing this last Letter run into things more general, I fell into the discourse of it with the Pensioner *Fagel* yesterday, and at last engag'd him to send me a Copy of the Letter which he confess'd to have by him, but that the Prince had the Original. I caus'd it to be transcrib'd immediately and sent it your Majesty enclos'd.

Upon the whole, I find the Pensioner fixt, That this State must venture all, rather than quit their Allies. But for what concerns themselves, not only desirous, but impatient for a Peace. For the Match proposed in the Count's Letter, I find him little inclin'd to it, but very much to that of *England*. Upon this talk I asked him, whether he had not heard of another between the King of *Spain* and Madamoiselle; he confess'd he had, and seem'd to wonder at this in the Letter, because he thought the advice of the other came the same way though not directly. I asked him what he thought of the Match with *Spain*, and when he said a great deal of wishing and applauding it upon the Conditions

of

of *France*'s endowing her with the Conquests of *Flanders*. I told him he had reason, and that the State might very well give a Queens Portion to have the Match, and the Peace made upon those Terms. He confess'd it and said at last, *Je me fais fort de faire donner deux cents mille Jacobus a cette condition.*

I thought it became me to give your Majesty the knowledge of what past, and only to say upon it, That in my weak opinion, this were an adventure worthy of your Majesty's Atchievement. By which alone, in all present appearance, the Peace of Christendom may be restored, by which *France* may come out of the War with Honour, and *Spain* with safety. By which your Majesty leaves a Neece with one of the greatest Crowns of Christendom on her head, by which you may draw a mighty Treasure into your privy Purse, and by which, after the applause of all the World abroad, and all your Subjects at home, upon a Peace whereby *Flanders* is secured, your Majesty will have Glory and Ease together attend all the rest of your Life. And so I leave it to your Majesty's Thoughts, and beg your Justice in believing me

SIR,

Your Majesty's most Loyal, and most Obedient Subject and Servant,

W. Temple.

P. S.

I beg of your Majesty that the enclosed Copy may be secret, whether it be useful or no.

Hague,

Hague, Jan. 29. S. N. 1675.

May it please Your Majesty,

UPon the discourses with the Pensioner, of which I gave your Majesty an account in my last; the Prince took occasion to enter with me upon the same subject just upon his leaving this Town, he spake of it with great hopes that Your Majesty would fall in with such a Project for the Peace, and with confidence that you might most certainly and easily effect it if you pleased, and with despair of seeing it brought about any other way. Upon my mention of Money in general, he said, that should not fail; and upon my raising difficulties of *France* quitting so many conquered places, though upon consideration of such a Match, he said, if all would not be consented to, he believ'd it might be done upon those that were most necessary to the security of *Flanders*. That he knew so much of the condition of *France*, as to believe they would be glad of a Peace, if they could have it with Honour, which this would give them. And that however he was sure they would not refuse it Your Majesty if they saw you desired it. He spake of it as a thing that would give him assurance of His Majesty's impartialness in the general affair of your good meaning to His Highness, and the safety of these Countreys, and of that which would make way for the firmest and closest Measures between you for ever after. He desired me to write of it personally to Your Majesty, and to give him immediately an account of what answer I received, which makes me give Your Majesty more trouble than I should have presumed

presumed to do upon any other occasion, and take notice of it to no other hand, till I receive Your Majesty's Command upon it; what I shall say to the Prince. I confess I take it for a Scheme of great Honour, Happiness and Ease to Your Majesty, and if you should effect it, and after a general Peace fall into those close Measures with the Prince and this State, which my Lord Chamberlain so much discoursed of here, I should not despair of seeing them brought to give Your Majesty upon a defensive League, a clause of Guarranty upon all Quarrels you might have by your right to the Flag, which would be the certain way to give Your Majesty an undisputed possession of what has been hitherto a disputed Claim, and thereby give to Your Majesty's Crown and Reign the greatest Glory that has arriv'd to any of your Ancestors. I had troubled Your Majesty with this by the last Post but that hearing something more had past in the *Maestricht* Correspondence, I resolved first to speak with the Pensioner *Fagel*, which I could not do till *Sunday*. He told me there was another Letter come from the Count, and all the Arguments that could be used to draw this State off from their Measures with the House of *Austria*, and into the old ones with *France*: And that besides all other advantages of Trade, it was proposed to give them a Port upon the *Mediterranean* upon the Coast of *Italy*. But upon the whole, he said they could not leave their Allies, discoursed much of the Forces they should have the next Campaign, of the little appearance to make a Peace at present, any other way than by the Project mentioned: and concluded, that if all success failed, so as their Allies should break into separate Treaties, he doubted not but they could take better Measures with *France* than any of the rest.

rest. I humbly beg your Majesty's Pardon for these troubles, and your acceptance of that Devotion and Truth wherewith I am, and shall ever be,

SIR,

Your Majesty's most Loyal, and most Obedient Subject and Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Febr. 5. *S. N.* 1675.

HAving Yesterday received the enclosed from the Prince, I could not let it go without making use of that occasion to bear me out in this, which is the Third since you went. Our Packets fail us out of *England* by all the three Boats being on this side, which is a little complain'd of here, and will be remedyed easily by the resolution you told me here you had taken in case of such accidents. I thought it might be worth letting you know what Figure *de Moulin* has made since you went. The next day he came to Court, and so for several days after; and though he went not in to the Prince, yet he was very officious to ask others whether they desired to speak with his Highness, and other forms of that kind, to make his Credit and his Post pass for the same it had been before. Several *English* took notice of it, and some to me, so far that I spoke to the Prince of it; he told me plainly he had seen him twice, and was forced to it for ending some Businesses that were left in his hands, but would not do it

publickly

publickly nor otherwise than was necessary to that end, and so sending him away. I believe the Prince has been as good as his word, both in this, and in ordering him to come no more to Court, for I have heard nothing of it since; when his Highness went out of Town he left him here, where he has seem'd taken up wholly with thoughts of *Surinam*, but I hear the Province of *Zealand* will not admit of him for Governour of that Colony, in which case he will be to seek again. I know not whether he or others who have the same Business here, may have spread very many reports of His Majesty's Intentions to break again with this Countrey, either directly or by a War with *Spain*, or assistance to *Sweden*. They have run very much about for some ten Days past, but no colour given them by Monsieur *Van Beuninghen*'s Letters. On t'other side he perswades them the Treaty of Commerce in the *Indies* will suddenly be finished, and that the Court is much alarm'd at the great successes of the *French* in *Alsatia*.

On *Thursday* the States of *Holland* met here upon a Letter from the Prince, demanding their advice what answer to give the Proposition made him by the Deputies of *Gelderland*, with the offer of that Dukedom. I believe the States will advise him to accept it, both his Friends and Enemies. The first out of compliance with what they think will please him; The others out of Malice and the belief it will hurt him, by the jealousie it will raise in the other Provinces, and the disconcert it may occasion in the Government. As the Forms run I have written to Mr. Secretary *Williamson* a little further account of it, and therefore will not trouble you with it here, nor with any other current News which you have what you please of from him. The Prince has dispatch'd the Business of the St. *Francis* with

all

all the readiness that could be, which the King is to take kindly, being against all Forms and a great deal of Money out of the Prince's Purse. Begging the favour of my humble Service to my Lord [illegible] with the enclosed, and your Justice in believing me always

Your most Faithful Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, Febr. 19. *S. N.* 1675.

I Was extreme sorry to find the News of your ill Health by one I received last Post from Mr. *Yard*, with an enclosed to the Prince, which was sent away the same day. But the Gout is an Enemy you are so much acquainted with, and that hitherto lived so well with you, that I hope this encounter will be as short and as gentle as the rest, which I shall be much concerned to hear, because you know how much I am in whatever [illegible] you. Upon the certainty I received from Sir *William Lockhart* of that Courts refusing *Mons*, I writ it immediately to the Prince, as well as told it to the Pensioner, and propos'd as from His Majesty *Arnheim* or *Nimeghen*, upon which I this day received a Letter, whereof I send a Copy enclosed. I know not at all what to say further upon it; I foresee exceptions from *France* against *Leige* and *Slayet*, and know not what *Grolle* is, but doubt by what I have heard, it is less capable than *Mons* it self to contain such an Assembly. The Prince may be difficult upon any place at easie distance from the heart of the

the Provinces upon more reason now, than he had a Month since, and *Switzerland* is so far off, that His Majesty will have much less Influence upon Negotiations there than he would have nearer hand, so that unless the most Christian King will be prevailed with still to accept of *Meurs*, as having been so long out of the jurisdiction of the Empire, and Neutral in the whole course of the War, I know not where this matter will fix. The *Swedish* Ambassador says, Monsieur *Sparr* writes him word there was yet likelihood of the *French* accepting it upon the representations he had made from hence, of which I must expect the certainty by next Post.

I cannot but tell you in particular, upon occasion of this Business of *Gelderland*, which takes up at this time all discourses here, that you can hardly imagine the motions it has generally made in mens Minds here, especially in the great Towns both of *Holland* and *Zealand*, but chiefly in *Amsterdam*; and not only from the business of *Gelderland*, which they all interpret an apparent Union, but from the presages they make of what it aims at in the remaining Provinces. 'Tis generally talked and believed both at *Amsterdam* and here, that this was concerted between His Majesty and the Prince at your being here, and with great reaches and designs on both sides, and several here have come to sound me upon it; but as I disclaim my own knowledge of any thing of it with Truth, so I do with confidence yours.

Another surmise is, That a Negotiation is on foot with *Spain*, for giving the Prince the remaining part of *Gelderland* in satisfaction of the debt owing by that Crown. But, I am not apt to believe they will be easie in that point, and without the rest; That Province is so poor a business, and their Finances as well as Country in so ruinous a posture, that

that People draw from thence an argument, ſo much ſtir would not be made for ſo ſmall a matter without further Aims, ſince the Merchant's rule is, to venture a little to gain much, but never to venture much to gain but little. The Prince's nearest and beſt Friends here are ſo ſtartled at the effects this has already had upon the Peoples Minds and Diſcourſes, that they are much in pain upon the hourly expectation of hearing what the Prince may have yeſterday declared in the Aſſembly, which was to be of the States at *Arnheim*, and ſome of them are confident he will have declined the offer, for my part I know not what to gueſs will be the iſſue, and can only wiſh His Majeſty may ſo far increaſe every day the general Credit of his Government, as well as that of his Perſon; that wherever People and Trade ſhall by any accident come to decay, they may encreaſe with us; ſince I am ſure nothing elſe wants to make His Majeſty the greateſt Prince in the World, beſides what depends wholly upon himſelf.

Pray think whether upon the general Credence given me in His Majeſty's laſt Letter to the States, whereby he entered upon the Mediation, it may not be neceſſary, that at leaſt a general and formal Inſtruction be ſent me from His Majeſty, and by one of the Secretaries, ordering and impowering me to make what paces here I ſhall judge neceſſary or conducing towards the Peace; and whether when His Majeſty ſends me any Commands privately by you, which paſs not by the Secretaries, and are not grounded in my Inſtructions, and whereupon I muſt make publick Application to the States, it will not be neceſſary to have His Majeſty's hand to them. I am ever and moſt affectionately, *Yours.*

W. Temple.

Hague,

Hagne, Feb. 22. *S. N.* 1675.

I Was extreme glad to find by yours of the 5*th*. that your indiſpoſition was ſo near leaving you, and the rather, becauſe I know ſome Patients in that kind, that uſed to think every fit of the Gout Phyſick as well as Sickneſs, and I hope it will prove ſo to you. I have let the Prince know that you have yet nothing from Monſieur *Ruvigny* upon the ſubject he has ſo much at heart, and I cannot give you a better account of the ſtate of the whole general affair here on foot, about the place of Congreſs, than by ſending you the encloſed Memorial, being the firſt I have put in upon the Subject of our Maſters Mediation. I ſhould be glad to know, whether in the circumſtantial as well as main ſcope of it, you find it agree with His Majeſty's Conceptions, upon a matter where I am left at large; the Vein of it runs a good deal upon poſſeſſing them with His Majeſty's Impartialneſs in this Affair, the contrary whereof, both has and will render that of *Sweden* without effect upon this Subject, and in anſwer to Mr. Secretary *Williamſon*'s laſt directions, to do nothing but by Concert with them, if I find them ſtill own'd as Mediators, I have written to him at large this Poſt, and deduced that whole matter, ſo as I may receive His Majeſty's more poſitive directions how to govern my ſelf in it, wherein I hope your Health will not hinder your Aſſiſtance and Advice, as a matter not only of more or leſs Honour to our Maſter, but of more or leſs Efficacy in the Mediation.

The Prince has refuſed the Dukedom of *Gelderland*, and very wiſely, as I find you think as well

as we here; but yet not so well as if he had prevented the offer and the talk of it. For what has past is generally interpreted as an Indication of what he desires and designs, whether 'tis so or no, and some of his Friends here were too open in talking of what they expected at first upon it, that all the rest of the Provinces would have followed the example. I do not believe it came from the Princes own dispositions, nor from any bodies Counsels who meant him well, and understood well his game, or the time of playing this cast. You cannot imagine the Effects it has and would have had suddenly here if it had gone on, and 'tis certain that those of *Amsterdam*, besides their publick Letter with their Opinions and Reasons produced by them in the Assembly of the States against it, sent privately to the Prince to let him know that if he did it, their Town was absolutely undone, that the Merchants were resolved to call in their Money, which would immediately break the Bank and destroy the whole Trade of the Town, and consequently of the Countrey; and I know particularly that many of the chief Merchants were resolved upon it, and considering whither to go, whether for *England*, *Antwerp*, *Bremen* or *Hamburgh*, which last would have had the greatest share, upon the same circumstances which drew Trade hither.

All the Prince has to do at present, is to recover this stake the best and soonest he can, which by the way, I must tell you, has been sharper in *Zealand* than any where else, and which, if he had the Sovereignty here in design, has set it back fifty Degrees further than it was, instead of advancing it, which can be done no way here, but as Watermen advance by pulling backward, and looking quite the contrary way. I could wish upon this occasion

His Majesty were at leisure to read those Two short Chapters of Religion and Trade, in the Book I gave you, and in the last of which, one period just upon this Subject of the Prince's being Sovereign, runs as they tell me now, for a Prophecy about *Amsterdam*. I am ever,

and most Affectionately Yours,

W. Temple.

Hague, Feb. 26. *S. N.* 1675.

I Was extreme sorry to find by your last of the 9th. That your Illness was return'd after I had flattered my self with its having left you, from what your former told me; God send your next may bring me better News of it, which will be welcomer to no body than me. I am very glad to find His Majesty has that proposition still in his Thoughts and Endeavour and hope he will pursue it, till it falls one way or other, for in all Business of publick and private Concernment, I have always thought the best rule is in hunting one thing at a time, and see the end of it before another begins. I am very proud to find His Majesty's opinion as well as yours agree with what I had at the first upon this Business of *Gelderland*. 'Tis now over, but the smart of it will not wear off without further time, and bending the Stick a contrary way must make it right. I think His Majesty for his own sake as well as the Prince's, has reason to be of the mind he is in this matter, for all offers of that kind lose us as many Friends in this Country as it gains to

France, and it was a common voice at *Amsterdam*, That they had better be under the subjection to that Crown than of an absolute Sovereignty at home. And in those few days the noise lasted, there was above Three Hundred Thousand Pounds drawn out of the Bank at *Amsterdam*. The *East-India* Actions fell above Thirty, and those upon the Cantores of *Holland* fell from 100. to 75. which was Five lower than at the most desperate *Crisis* of the last War, which are effects that might amaze such as either do not understand how much Trade, and indeed all Government depends upon Opinion. The Prince has in his Letters to the Province of *Utrecht* thank'd them for their kindness expresst to him in their Advice, and fallen very sharply upon those in other Provinces who could ground such suspicion as they had done upon that occasion, which makes me fear he does not yet know enough of the temper of his Patient, nor how little any sort of rough Physick agrees with it: And let me tell you between us, that among some younger or warmer Heads, they say our Friend the Pensioner has been the chief consulter of this Affair, which for my part, I think agrees very well with what others say of his being at heart as much a Republican as Monsieur *de Witt*. For I am sure nothing could have given so great a check to any designs of Dominion here, as this had done; whereas by a course of very popular Counsels, with some successes in the War, the States themselves in a little time might have been the Instruments of subjecting the People, or the People might have forced them to it by their trust and kindness to the Prince, and thereby preferring his Government before their own.

I cannot tell you any thing yet what is like to be done about His Majesty's proposition of *Nimeguen* for

for the place of Congreſs, the States having ſent it to the Prince as I had done at the ſame time, I put in my Memorial to them. I have preſs'd it both with his Highneſs and here, as the only way of meeting, but after all, I am apt to think the Campaign will begin before the Treaty; and then the Events of one, will be govern'd by thoſe of the other. I believe the method of the next Action will be to have the Emperor's Army act either by it ſelf, or in conjunction only with that of the Circles; and for the *Brandenburgh* and *Lunenburgh* Troops to fall in Auxiliaries only to the Prince of *Orange*, who ſhall command alone, and upon occaſion of a Siege or a Battle receive other Auxiliary Troops likewiſe from the Duke of *Villa Hermoſa* who will live in the beſt Intelligence, and I believe with very great deference to his Highneſs in the Counſels and Actions of the Campaign. I write you particular things which go no other way, but yet ſuch as I imagine His Majeſty as well as you may be content to know. I am ever,

Yours,

W. Temple.

Hague, March 8. *S. N.* 1675.

I Am to acknowledge Two from you ſince my laſt, the Firſt of the 12*th.* and the other of the 26*th.* paſt, and though I find in them an end of that Propoſition made lately towards a Peace, which paſt with your Communication from His Majeſty, and how unwilling you ſeem to enter further into theſe

Matters, yet for my part I know not how it can be avoided. For besides your having had the Thread of all Foreign Negotiations so long in your hands, and entered so far into those at present on foot here by your late Journey, I find there will ever pass something more personally from the Prince towards His Majesty, than what goes formally from the States, and which his Highness expects should be managed by His Majesty so as not to be made publick, either to many of our Ministers or to Monsieur *Van Beuningben*, till it comes to be avowed by the States, and transmitted either in my ordinary dispatches to the Secretaries, or in those of the States to their Ambassador with you. Now things of this nature, I know not which way to convey to His Majesty but as I have done hitherto by your hands, unless he pleases to appoint me any other, or to command me to send them directly to his own, which were a trouble I dare not presume of my self to give His Majesty too often. The Prince expostulates a little upon the mention he made of Three Towns for the Congress in his Letter to me, which I sent you a Copy of that it was communicated to Monsieur *Van Beuningben*, and written from him to the States, before they knew any thing of it from his Highness, who being then in his Journey, had only told me the Thoughts which presently occurr'd to him, that so he might receive His Majesty's opinion before he propos'd it to the States; and he told me upon it, that such proceedings in what comes thus frankly and personally from him, may do him much prejudice here, and force him to speak nothing but just the Language of the States, which I promis'd to give His Majesty a hint of by this Post, and will come with less trouble from you.

[illegible] the main point, which I am commanded [illegible] Secretary *Williamson*'s late Letters to endeavour, that is to know upon what terms more or less the States believe the Peace may be consented to by their Confederates as well as themselves, that so His Majesty may have ground to work upon. I discours'd it very largely and earnestly with both his Highness and the Pensioner since their return, and acquainted them with my Orders to know it from the States. The Prince says that when I ask this Question of the States in His Majesty's name, their Answer will certainly be, That they must confer with the Ministers of their Allies before they make any return; and when that is done, the Ministers of the Emperour and *Spain* will say either that they can give no Answer till they have first sent to their Principals, or else that they have no Orders that go lower than the Terms of the *Pyrenees*, which the Prince says were a Plan very proper to be returned for that which you tell me is advanced by Monsieur *de Ruvigny* there, and is all His Majesty can get from him. But hereupon the Prince proceeded further, and as he said in more Confidence, and told me he could not but wonder that His Majesty should say he wanted ground to work upon in this Matter, when he (the Prince) had opened himself so far to you at your being here, as to mention at least, what he would endeavour if His Majesty fell in with it, though he could not engage either for the States or their Allies, and therefore had not proposed any such thing to be offered to them but only to His Majesty, because he believed if they two could agree upon any thing between them, they might go a great way towards effecting it by His Majesty's Offices with *France*, and his own with the Confederates. This he repeated

to me, as what he had said to you, which was the Terms of *Aix la Chapelle* with an exchange of *Charleroy*, *Ath*, *Tournay* and *Oudenard* for *Aire* and St. *Omers*, the Four first being as he said necessary to leave *Flanders* in a posture of defence, and the Two last being very considerable to *France*, both as in-lets into their Countrey, and as the only remainders of the Province of *Artois*. But his Highness says he has not receiv'd a word from you concerning his Majesty's Thoughts upon this motion, nor whether he has found it fit to propose it to *France*, as what his Majesty judged the Confederates might agree to.

For the Prince says it must by no means be mentioned as coming from him, though if his Majesty approves those Terms, and thinks them a good and safe Foundation of a lasting Peace, he (the Prince) will employ all his endeavours towards bringing it about. And he doubts not by the answer of *France* to his Majesty upon this overture there may be ground enough for a further Negotiation.

As to the place of Congress, I believe yet by this Packet, I may send Mr. Secretary *Williamson* word of the States consenting to it, and endeavouring it with their Allies, though I cannot yet say it certainly; for to tell you the Truth, 'tis a Point that both the Prince and the Pensioner were very violently against; and upon which I have had longer contestations with them both since their return, than ever I had upon any other subject, because I found his Majesty continued his Commands to press it all I could, and I was very loath he should not succeed in this first pace of the Mediation. If I have carried it, I must attribute it to that excellent quality in the Prince of hearing very patiently, and weighing Reasons that are often so much against his own

opinions, but you know he comes about very hardly, and so he has done in this if he be absolutely come about, and does not clog it and lose the grace of an absolute deference to his Majesty by proposing *Breda* rather than *Nimeghen*. By his answers to your Letters, you will know how much he disowns having ever had any thought of accepting the Dutchy of *Gelderland*, though all the Provinces had advised him to it, and how much he esteems his Majesty's concernment in this matter for a testimony of his real kindness to his Person and Interests. I am ever

Your's,

Lord Chamberlain,

W. Temple.

P. S.

Just upon the closure of the Packet, the Prince sends me the enclosed, and writes me word there is one for his Majesty in that to you, and that *Nimeghen* is absolutely accepted.

Hague, March 12. *S. N.* 1675.

SInce mine by last Packet I have received yours of the 23*d.* past, and as to the first part of your complaining how often other Men's Children are laid at your door, I will confess I think you have reason, and that it has happened to you oftner and in more weighty matters than I have known it to any Man, and though your conclusion be good, of bearing it as well as you can, yet I think it is a thing that

[illegible] much despised, and that too great [illegible] fact of such Calumnies and [illegible] for Innocence as well as Guilt. It was [illegible] here and interested his Majesty more than you, but I resist it after such a sort wherever I meet it, and have the good luck of meeting here a disposition to believe me. To that I cure all those I can with, and by them a great many more; but it is still so strong [illegible] that I have been thinking of making a [illegible] or five days on purpose to beat it down, but would be glad first to know whether you think it worth it or no. It appears but too much there, what we both concluded, that it will be hardly and with time, that the Prince will wear off the imputation that Business of *Gelderland* has left, and what I told you of a person's having so much part in it, which you say in your last you were so much amazed and surprized at it, is a thing I have told others ground to believe, and ill believed so strongly and sagaciously by others, who [illegible] have [illegible] ground. If that be will very hardly recover it, [illegible] time or other from this Constellation.

I wish extremely [illegible] hours Conversation with you, to tell you the detail of this story, which you will believe I could not [illegible] without observing all the motions of it, but this must be referred till we meet; as well as the personal discourses about interests which you the least suspected befall in with it. You had reason to believe [illegible] Betwixt us there, as I told from the beginning, that there was little likelihood of obtaining. Nevertheless, and therefore I pray you still that more may be written upon it, as nothing which has given his Majesty the honour of doing that in a

a Fortnight, which the *Swedes* had been Eight Months pursuing in vain, and were in despair of compassing. Monsieur *Van Beuningen* told you right, that the Prince had rather have return'd to *Breda*, and I may tell you that the Pensioner contested against any place in these Provinces to the very last, but the other Deputies carried it unanimously that his Majesty should not be refused, not so much as reason'd with, in the first thing he had propos'd, and from a motion of his own, and that it would not have good grace to propose *Breda*, after they had once and so positively refused it. I write to his Majesty by the enclosed my Thoughts upon the next point I conceive is to be aimed at, and shall pursue the Commands I receive upon it. Monsieur *Sarrie* took leave of me this Morning upon his Journey into *England* from the Elector ——— I know not whether he will tell you what the Prince tells me certainly that he will be at *Cleve* the week after next, on purpose upon an Interview with his Highness who I hear has a great and personal influence upon that Duke. Hearing that the several Ministers were already providing Houses at *Munster*, and that yesterday the best House in the Town was already taken, I have sent thither this Morning a Gentleman to take care of providing a House for his Majesty's Ambassador there whatever it be, which the sooner it be resolved, is I suppose, the better, in regard of the preparations of Equipage, and the rest that will be necessary to appear in at so great a Congress. I am ever

Town,

Lord Chamberlain,

W. Temple.

Hague,

Hague, March 22. S. N. 1675.

I Have newly received yours of the 5th, currant, and rejoyce with you upon your Journey to *Exeter*, where I wish you the Health and Satisfaction you propose to your self, and which is necessary both to the Service of our Master, and to the Contentment of your Friends. What you wonder so much at, both as to the Prince's saying you had given him no answer to what he propos'd to you about the Peace, and as to my suffering him to say it, I must tell you that I very well remember what you writ to me about Monsieur *Ruvigny*'s Scheme of that matter, and I told it the Prince whether you writ it to him or no. But his Highness never took that for any answer to what he had advanced to you at your being here, which he says was not to *France*, nor to know their mind upon it but his Majesty's, therefore the answer the Prince expected upon it was to know whether his Majesty thought that Proposal or something near it a reasonable ground for such a Peace as his Majesty judged safe and lasting; and whether his Majesty would thereupon enter into it with *France*, while his Highness did the same with the Confederates. If his Majesty should be of this mind then the Prince expected he would propose it to *France*, and signifie their Answer upon it; if that should be just what Monsieur *Ruvigny* sticks to, and no appearance of going less, I suppose *in* plain terms the Treaty ends before it begins, and is not to begin again till the Campaign ends. This at least is my opinion, and that whatever the success of the one side, and disasters of the other, have been the last year, yet the Confederates will

will rather throw away the Sheath and Buckle again to the War, than take a Peace upon any such Terms, before they are absolutely beaten into it. I have upon Mr. Secretary *Williamson*'s Orders at Two Conferences, desired of the States to propose a Plan to his Majesty, upon which or near it, they think their Allies will consent to the Peace. By next Post you will see it from them in writing, in the mean time I may tell you it will be much such another on the one side, as Monsieur *Ruvigny*'s is on the other; and so must all be that comes in this open way from the States. Nor should I have desired it but by Mr. Secretary's Orders, or expected any issue from any thing here in this kind, but what is first privately concerted between his Majesty and the Prince. What the States will do as to interposing for Prince *William* of *Furstenburgh*, I know not, but I hear it talk'd among the Foreign Ministers, that the Emperour will not part with him unless a Peace be made, and in that case, he will oblige himself to give him his Liberty and Pardon him. I have very good reason to believe the *Swedish* Ambassadors both at *Paris* and here, make it their Business to hinder the Congress at *Nimeghen*, by throwing in this Incident as well as other ways; and stomach his Majesty's being left sole Mediator by their being so formally rejected, as well as his having obtained this point from the States after their having failed at *Breda* so long contended for. However Monsieur ——— and I live the best that can be together, which I do not only by his Majesty's Command but my own Disposition too, having visited him four or five times, and communicated all that has past in his Majesty's Mediation since he has stirred out of his Chamber, where he has lain Sick either of the Gout or of trouble, since he is grown as

he

[illegible] never saw a more dejected [illegible] upon this occasion. Having part, I think, you have ended your [illegible] Letter, but [illegible] you know very well I ever told you the States here would break rather than [illegible] to [illegible] Merchants (or the [illegible] between the Nations prefer'd [illegible] have since stood upon; just as you fly, either would they ask'd or nothing, nor do I believe there will be much use of the Commissioners to decide the quarrels of the Companies, when other quarrels are not intended on one side or the other.

Monsieur *Wicquefort* desires to know your answer upon what was propos'd at your going away from hence, and upon which you promis'd a resolution. I am ever and most affectionately

Yours,

Lord Chamberlain.

W. Temple.

Hague, March [illegible] 1673.

MY last was of this day Sevennight, and I thought to have writ to you by the *Turkey* Packet, but I was overlaid with more than my eyes would bear; and besides, I found by the Prince who gave me a long Interruption in the midst of my dispatch, that you were like to hear too much from himself that Night of all I had to write. The truth is, I have not seen him so much moved as he was at your Letter which he came on purpose to shew me, and I think only to vent himself a little, for

[illegible] I believe [illegible] between [illegible] I think [illegible] not open himself to any body else here. I will only tell you as to what you fear, the Lords may what should make you trouble your self about it, since you were the first that spoke of any such things, and that was only in case a Peace should happen, or should be so advanced as he might go no farther in it there. But that no affairs should, you know very well that he neither thought of it before you went, nor could if he had never so much mind to it. This past pretty calmly, but when he came to those words in Cypher about the designs [illegible] *Parliament*, and afterwards to remember him of what was [illegible] of that kind, *qu'il en le touchoit en le ferois autant*, he was out of Patience, and said of the first, that they were *les plus grandes fouffes* &c. and wish'd he might die upon the place if either here or any Man that he knew of here had ever any thought of that kind; but he said if he had, your discovering him in that matter was not the way *de faire changer fa conduite*, and then it was a sort of Language he had not deserved of you, and could not bear. And a great deal more of this kind which [illegible] to the purpose to repeat. When I had told him you spoke without doubt of what other People could have told deep inform them, and not of what you either told or believed. He believes the other side, no doubt could say by your writing, but that you believed it your self, or at least, had made the King believe you did so, and the contrary, if you had any of that Friendship for him you made so much profession of, you would have taken of any such impressions and answered for his Innocence which you know so well, or at least till you found some good grounds to think he had changed them.

But

Before last he said he would make a visit to him that Night, and be as plain with him as he pretended to be with him.

Now for the thing it self, I doubt they have done him wrong that have given these Informations, and cannot believe either his Highness or any of the States have had any design upon the approaching Session of Parliament, nor can I think of any thing that may have given occasion to doubt it, unless it be what Mr. *Carr* told me he writ to you about a Month since of *Fenwick* and *du Moulin*'s man going over into *England*.

I told him he would do well if he could to find out the ways of meeting them there, but I made no further reflections upon such inconsiderable fellows either going or coming when no more was known of it. For *du Moulin* though he is still seen at Court, as they say, (for I never saw him there since you went) yet the Prince continues to say he talks to him no further than is necessary to wind off such Businesses as were left in his hands, or towards his Journey for *Surinam*, where he says he had been gone before this, if it had not been for Monsieur *Odyke*. And for the Business of the Peace, they are so far from thinking of Applications to the Parliament, that upon all occasions they assure me that they would be content for their own parts to make his Majesty not only Mediator, but Arbiter between *France* and them, if their Allies could be brought to it, and leave his Majesty wholly to judge what sort of Peace would be safe for Christendom.

This is all I know of the Matter, you best know what ground you have to believe the contrary, but a late accident here has given me much occasion to reflect upon the many false Lights one is apt to draw from a certain race of Men, who live by In-

telligence,

estimate) and value themselves to one more still at [illegible] and raise matter out of the dust [illegible] of it self, rather than appear useless by being silent. Monsieur *Vicfort* is like to be a sad example of the issues of this Trade as well as of the qualities it seems necessary to it. For I am sure he had more Talent by the half than any man I ever knew of in, but besides his Criminal part (which the Pensioner assures me has been both Intelligence in *England* during the War, and at present with *France* too as well as *Sweden*, and a design of framing a party in the State against the Prince and the present Government) I find by what I hear of his Papers how much of his Trade has been the selling false Ware from one hand to another, of which I cannot give you a greater strain than in one particular he writ to his Correspondents in *France* and *Germany*, That I had told him that His Majesty had put the Prince upon the Business of *Gelderland*, and was very angry he had refus'd it; whereas when he asked me in the heat of it, about this point, as a thing much talk'd of here, I told him quite the contrary, and declared my self upon all occasions more openly than any body here did till it came to pass. The Pensioner will have it that Monsieur *Vicfort* and Monsieur *Groot*, and some others, have had it in design to bring about such a Revolution in the State, as might cast its dependance wholly upon *France*; and to that end have made it their business, with so much industry, to discredit not only the Prince, but His Majesty too, with the People here, upon the late affair of *Gelderland*. However it is, I doubt this poor Man will leave his Head in the Service, for the Duke of *Lunenburg*'s Envoy here abandons him, and says, he doubts his Master will do so too. And on the other

[illegible] his supreme [illegible] Character Monsieur Fagel gave [illegible] which he submitted himself to the Civil and Criminal Justice, and has been constantly in the Wages of the States.

I have desired Mr. Secretary [illegible] return His Majesty my humble Thanks for the honour he has pleased to do me, by the late nomination of his Ambassadour to the Congress of Nimeguen; but if this acknowledgment should have failed by Mr. Secretary at London, while the King is at New Market, I desire you will be so kind as to make it for me.

I am, &c.

W. Temple.

Hague, April 5. N. S. 1675.

I Received Yesterday yours from New Market of the 27th. with His Majesty's answer concerning what I proposed of endeavouring a Cessation of Arms. I was, I confess, of opinion, that His Majesty might take a great deal upon him in the management of this Mediation, and that the doing so was the only way to obtain a Peace, because I thought neither of the Parties would easily deny what His Majesty should propose from himself, and as a thing he should obtain himself by being refused. But I am very glad His Majesty has been better advised, than to engage in this matter, for I find I should certainly have lost my reputation on this side, as you apprehend the same on the other. And though this State as to their own parts might have

[illegible] by it, rather than dispute such a Pro[illegible] his Majesty. Yet I see plainly since [illegible]'s arrival here, and some dis[illegible] I have had with the *Brandenburgh* Minister, that it would have been impossible to bring it about without either the Emperour or the Elector; the first having accounts to be both strong and early this Year in the Field, and the latter not enduring the title of a Subordination that must leave the *Swedes* to rule what is left in his Countrey; and you know very well how little appearance there is for this State to separate from those Allies, in any such important matter as this, and so it must end. For the Congress since it still hangs upon the point of Prince [illegible] of *Furstenbergh*, I can make no judgment at all of what is likely to come of it, but have made all the tryals I could, not only upon the chief Ministers here, but upon those likewise of the Emperour and *Spain* in this Court, who have assured me of their utmost endeavours therein; the effect whereof we may see in a Fortnight or Three Weeks hence. In the mean time the *French* possessing themselves of the Citadel of *Liege*, and that Countreys falling thereby under the Protection (as I imagine) of *France*, is no ill beginning of the Campaign on that side, and a worse could not be on this, than the sickness of the Prince. I gave His Majesty last Post an account of it to that hour, but about three hours after the small Pox came out very fast, which for my part I thought better of than of his Fever; as it had passed that day after his letting Blood, his Spirits so spent, his oppressions at Heart so great, and his Tongue so black, that I thought his danger extreme great that Night. Ever since they came out he has mended, and not yet met with any ill sign or accident, his Fever seeming every day

and his taste returning. But a Weeks illness before they came out left him very weak, and you may imagine what a risk he has run, when I find plainly he had three Spots upon his hands before they let him Blood, but yet they so little apprehended the small Pox, that they gave him cooling things all that day. He lies with the greatest Patience and Resignment that can be, which are great Medicines, and help him to sleep well, as he did last Night. You will please to give His Majesty this account, and thereby save his trouble by a Letter, unless any thing different from this happens before the closure of this Packet. The general and passionate concernment every Body here has in this accident, and the vast weight that hangs upon the issue of it, leaves hardly place for any other thoughts till that be seen, and we are like to continue yet in pain for these five or six days, this being but the third if fairly reckon'd from their coming out; though I suppose they might have been out a day before, but struck in upon letting-blood.

Monsieur *Fagel* assures me that Monsieur *Van Beuninghen* has orders from hence for his carriage in the point you mention, and such as you can wish, and he doubts not will be exactly obeyed.

I am ever Yours,

W. Temple.

Hague, April 12. *S. N.* 1675.

THough this day ought to excuse me from writing, yet I could not let the Packet go away without giving you, by it, the certainty of the Prince's recovery, this being the Eleventh Day of his

Highness, which has past in the whole course of it without the least ill accident. Yesterday was the first of his rising, and he has begun to grow hungry from the day before, and his Throat which has been the greatest trouble, is well; so that I do not see why he may not be abroad by *Sunday* come Se'ennight, and possess himself much better and longer Health by such an accident so well over. The States of Holland continued their Assembly till the Ninth Day of his Illness was past, and all men here have made so many reflections upon what must have followed any ill Event of this Sickness of his Highness, that they will be the more in pain upon every new danger that shall fall in his way.

I believe you now certainly return'd to *London*, and therefore take no care of giving His Majesty part of the Prince's recovery any other way, desiring you will please to do it, and to believe me always

Yours,

W. Temple.

Hague, April 23. *S. N.* 1675.

THE last Post brought me one from you of the 9*th*. after your return from the Countrey, where I hope your stay was the more agreeable for being longer than ordinary. The Prince is so well that though it was yesterday, but the 20*th*. day, yet I could not diswade him from Dining here, and after Dinner he was three or four Hours on Horse back in the Field at a Muster. This Day he takes Physick, and with that a farewel of this adventure,

[illegible] is happily ended, as Monsieur [illegible] is likely to be, though he is at present at the height.

I can say very little more to you, than I did before, upon your *demeſle* with his Highneſs, having never heard or ſpoken a word of it ſince that only time he came to me in ſuch heat; for his Illneſs, as you obſerve, was not only near, but then begun by the fits of his Back, and a good deal of Ill Temper that put him into. I ſhould have been glad you had ſent me a Copy of that part of your Letter which was in Cypher, becauſe there was a word or two they could not find out, and for ought any body knows, ſome others might be miſtaken. Becauſe you deſire my opinion of it, I will tell you very freely, that as he read it to me I thought ſome parts of it found ſomething ſharp and high, eſpecially that which was threatning, and which he ſaid might have been very proper Language for the King to have written him upon ſuch an occaſion, but not for my Lord *Arlington*. Beſides his Reſentment, as to the Style, there were two things that ſeem'd moſt to peek him; one was, That he was, as he ſaid, ſo perfectly innocent of all that you laid to his Charge; and the other, That he ſaid he was ſure by your writing, you believ'd all you ſaid of that Matter, or at leaſt, made the King believe you did ſo. The firſt he thought a part very unlucky to himſelf, the laſt very unfriendly from you; who he ſaid knowing him better, ought to have anſwered further for him than other men at Court. I will tell you in confidence one circumſtance more that nettled him at that time; The day before Monſieur *Vicfort* and his Papers had been ſeized, and among them a great many Letters from Sir ——— wherein both the Prince of *Orange* and the Penſioner told me they found Sir ——— endeavoured the raiſing up

[illegible] nothing more than a piece of double diligence, and without his Majesty's direction or communication. You had reason to assure your self of all my good Offices upon this occasion, and I am sure I told you in that Letter, what I said in your defence; and whenever we fall again upon that subject, I shall pursue the same point as far as possible; but hitherto he is not very willing to fall into any Reasonings or Debates, saying he finds his head too tender for such discourses. However I will not suffer him to go into the Field, without hearing more of it, and I hope in better Temper than he did last time.

I know not at all what Judgment [illegible] Congress design'd at *Nimeguen*, since [illegible] resolved to put it upon a point, which I doubt you [illegible] the Emperour resolved to grant. In the mean time, the Ambassadors designed for it here, are making their Equipage, and have taken their Houses as the *Spaniards* have likewise done; and for here I upon my Lord *Berkley's* and Sir *Lionel Jenkins's* desire. But since that I find by the last, that my Lord *Berkley* is so cold to him upon all talk of it, that it makes me apt to believe what is written to me from *England* of his Lordship's having already privately received the Money for his Equipage, in which, I suppose, Sir *Lionel* and I ought to have had our parts, if His Majesty intended we should be ready to appear there upon the first clearing of this difficulty about Prince [illegible] of *Furstenberg*, as

Mr. Secretary *Williamson* writes me word, I believe the War against *Sweden* will be declar'd of the same time both by *Denmark* and this State, since I do not find any likelihood by Monsieur *Lisola*, of the *Swedes* withdrawing their Forces out of the *Brandenburgh* Country. I am ever and most affectionately

Yours,

W. Temple.

Hague, May 7. *S. N.* 1675.

Since my last, I talk'd to the Prince of the late adventure between you, and told him, I had desired you to send me a Copy of your Letter, because no body could answer for any things being truly cyphered or uncyphered, and upon a mistake of that kind great quarrels might arise. His Highness said indeed he should be glad to see a Copy of it, for he was sure as his was uncyphered, 'twas what he had reason to resent, as not being fit to be written to him. I said however by what I could guess from your last to me, his Highness's Answer had, I believe, set you upon even terms. He reply'd you had writ him a Letter that anger'd him, and he had writ you an Answer that he believ'd had not pleas'd you. When I told him I found you attributed his ill humour to the beginnings of his Sickness, he laugh'd, but turn'd the discourse another way. Yesterday he told me he had received one from you, upon which I answer'd, and I hope now, Sir, you are good Friends again. He reply'd, no not

that I must first answer this Letter as well as I did his last; but this was said smiling and in good humour; then he shew'd me your Letter, and in short, the point between you is, That what you call speaking freely to him, he thought was speaking offensively; and though I justified your intentions, yet till I see the Copy of your Letter out of Cypher, I cannot judge of it. But be it as it will, I suppose the excuses you made his Highness for it in your last were satisfaction, and so I guess (by the humour I left him in upon this Subject) you will find he understands it. I should be extremely glad to find it would all end here, and that nothing that has past would make you at all colder in any good Offices that may fall in your way to perform between His Majesty and the Prince, which we both used to conclude were so necessary for both their Happiness and Safety, and at least for their Ease. I yesterday gain'd a point, which I hope His Majesty will be pleas'd with, the Prince having promis'd me that the very first time he saw *du Moulin* he would command him to be gone immediately for *Zealand*, and to see his Highness no more before his imbarking for *Surinam*. And this Afternoon the Prince came to me and told me he had done it this Morning, and that he had given him no more time than till to Morrow to be gone, which you will be pleas'd to let His Majesty know.

I think 'tis likewise fit he should know, that last Week came a Complement from the most Christian King to his Highness upon his recovery, in a Letter from Monsieur *Jouvoy* to the Count *d'Estrades*, which was written by that King's express Command. And besides, the Compliment upon the Prince's recovery, were these words, *& de l'assurer que sa conduitte depuis quelques années n'avoit pas diminue l'affection*

I affure you it will not foon be put to the Queſtion of your Fidelity. The Prince returned this Compliment by the ſame hand, *that he was very ſenſible it was not enough to have ſome ſhare in your Maſter's perſonal favour, if he did not alſo poſſeſs your eſteem; but that ſo long as he had the firſt, he did not doubt but the laſt would follow, and that he would take all poſſible care to deſerve both.* But all this his Highneſs acquainted the Miniſters of the Allies with here, as well as the Deputies of the ſecret Affairs.

I ſee the Campaign is like to begin with great hopes among the Confederates of acting with better conduct and ſucceſs this year than the laſt, eſpecially the *Imperialiſts*, who are ſaid to be very well recruited, and to have paſt the *Nebaigne* with appearance of very good Troops; theſe are ſo too in ſhew, and will be in number, for the reſt time muſt anſwer. The Prince will ſend a Perſon over to Compliment His Majeſty and the Duke in return of Mr. *Skelton* and Mr. *Ayſton*, but is not yet reſolved who it ſhall be. I am ever and moſt affectionately

Yours,

Lord Chamberlain.

W. Temple.

Hague, May 14. *N. S.* 1675.

THE laſt Poſt brought me yours of the 27th. paſt, and with it a Copy of your former to the Prince, I ſhewed it his Highneſs the ſame day upon his coming to dine here, but having not the Original to compare with it, he only mark'd ſome differ-

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some made by a stop between *daigner* and *Encore*, which he said he had read together in his, but for the rest he thought it was much the same with his as it was uncyphered. We both spoke of it as a thing past, and I am much of your mind that it needs no further *eclaircisse mens*, which I have never known do good between Friends unless it be to discover a mistake, or where one is resolved to yield, which does not often happen. If you will give me leave, I will tell you upon this occasion, that I believe if you had written to the Prince in *English* this dissatisfaction had not hapned between you, and I do not know why you should not use to do so, since he chuses to have it so, and with some partiality to the Language.

It may be some in me to all your *English* Letters which gives me this thought, for I never yet saw any of them wherein I could have wish'd a word alter'd; and I believe the same Conceptions would not have run so hard in your *English* as the Prince took it in your *French*. I hope whatever passes further between you, will be as if nothing of this had past, at least if you are of that mind, I am confident the Prince will be so too: towards which end I have not been wanting in those kind of discourses I thought most proper to attain it.

I have not seen any of Monsieur *Vicfort*'s Papers, besides what I told you was said to me upon them, both by his Highness and the Pensioner. I find one circumstance in a Copy of one of his own Letters to Mr. Secretary *Williamson*, and his examination upon it, has given them jealousie, and put the Count of *Waldeck* out of all patience upon his hearing it since his return. The words are *qu'il faloit necessairement gagner la Comtesse* de Waldeck, and though Monsieur *Vicfort* says it was only to help

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in the discovery of the *English* Correspondency, [illegible] that does not pass very well with them here, especially upon his confession that he had a Cabinet by him, sometimes fill'd with all sorts of little Curiosities which was intended for a Present to her upon this occasion. The Count *Waldeck* came to me the next day after his arrival here, and though he did it not in direct terms, yet it look'd as if his chief Errand were to complain of this particular.

For what you say you took notice of to Mr. Secretary concerning the condition between them of making all that correspondence a secret to me, 'tis what has been very publick here since the seizing Monsieur *Vicfort*'s Papers, and touches me very little. Mr. Secretary knows better than I do how an Ambassador is to be used in those kind of matters, which I know must differ according to the consideration they are in, and consequently, that I am not to expect the same from him that I always found from you when you filled that Post. I see you endeavour to make me some amends by your Care of me still, but you will never repair what you have lost me as to my satisfaction, unless it be by having gained as much in what concerns your own. The Prince intends to go to the Army on *Thursday*, and it will be time, if it be true that is here told of the *French* Marches. They expect here, the first attempt will be upon *Cambray* or *Lutzemburgh*. The Confederate Ministers seem to be in good heart upon the March of the *Imperial* and *Lorrain* Troops, but I find them not very well satisfied with the *Danes* upon the late Conferences here, who, though they seem willing to break at Land, yet require so great and new conditions towards a rupture at Sea, that I do not see it like to be easily accommodated. The *Swedish* Ambassador offers a Neutrality of that Crown,

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in case the Duke of *Brandenburgh* will observe it likewise, and he tells me to day, that he hears their Army is drawing together, and that it is believed they will retire into the *Swedish Pomerania*. All the *Demarches* of that Crown seem bold and cautious together, and to aim at performing just enough to save their Credit with *France*, and yet not draw on a War with the *Empire*, or this State; I know not whether they will be so dextrous as to gain so nice a point. To Morrow the Elector of *Brandenburgh* leaves this place and goes to his own Army, with intention to joyn a Body of the Emperour's in *Silesia*, towards opposing the *Swede*; and the Marquis *de Grana* goes at the same time towards the Imperial Army in *Alsatia*. But this is too much when a Parliament is sitting, which I know calls all attention from Foreign Affairs to those at home, wherein I wish His Majesty all Happiness and Success, and thereby Honour to his Counsels and Ministers. I am ever most affectionately

Yours,

Lord Chamberlain.

W. Temple.

Hagne, June 11. *S. N.* 1675.

I Have not writ, that I remember, since the Prince's leaving this Place, having had nothing new to bear me out, and none from you of late but one for the Prince, which came in one of the Secretary's Packets, and was immediately sent away to his Highness, who advised me of the receipt of it,

it, but said nothing upon it, so that I suppose all is sound betwixt you.

I put the Prince two or three times in mind of sending one to His Majesty, in acknowledgment of what he receiv'd by Mr. *Skelton*, and he was ever resolv'd to do it, but in pain to find a Person fit for it, and who was not necessary to him at his taking the Field. He said he would have sent Monsieur *Reed*, but that he knew he would be unwelcome to you, which you are not, I think, to take unkindly; and Monsieur *Reed* followed him into the Camp, in a belief, however, that he should be sent from thence; but last Night he return'd, and tells me, he has since heard nothing of it, though the Prince had been put in mind of it, but said he could not resolve who to send, and that he was asham'd it had been so long omitted; and the Army having began their march the day Monsieur *Reed* left them, I am afraid the hurry and concernment of those Actions the Prince is likely to engage in, may put this necessary point of decency still out of his head, which I am sorry for; but from our good wishes to the Intelligence and Kindness between His Majesty and the Prince, I think we ought to desire that too much weight be not put upon it, since I suppose, there is no ill meaning in it, nor no want of any thing that is real. We have no News at present, but great expectations on all hands, the Armies being in march on all sides and not far distant from one another. I am ever and most affectionately

Yours,

Lord Chamberlain.

W. Temple.

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Hague, August 17. *S.N.* 1675.

I Know not whether in the course of Thoughts you seemed to carry with you upon your going into the Country, you will be very well content to be troubled with any thing from hence, that may interrupt your Entertainments, or the cares of your Health, during the time you intend to pass at *Eaſton*. However I would not fail upon my arrival here, to begin as I ended, before my going over, and tell you the sum of what I found upon this Scene. The death of Monsieur *Turenne*, the weakness and retreat of his Army, and the defeat of the Duke of *Crequi*, of which last all we have yet goes in the enclosed Print, have as you may imagine a good deal raised the hearts of People here, so that they seem to desire now no more of the Prince of *Orange*, than that he may preserve his Army for a Month longer, believing in that time the *French* will be forced to call a considerable part of their Troops out of *Flanders* towards *Germany*. The chief Persons of the State give him advice accordingly, but I hear to day his Army is in motion, and upon some design, which I confess looks a little dangerous, considering the Duke of *Lutzemburgh*, though not very strong in Foot, is yet allowed to have above Twelve Thousand Horse, and very good Troops, and what can be attempted by the Prince with such an Army to attend him, I do not very well apprehend. The *Danish* Minister promises here that the War will be declared by his Master this Week, but the Duke of *Hanover*'s Troops are marched in defence of *Bremen*, which gives them here more umbrage yet of that King's Intentions, considering the

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Alliance and Intelligence between him and that Duke. I find both the generality and the chief Ministers here, as desirous as ever of a Peace, and in hopes only that the successes of the Confederates may facilitate the Terms of it, whether the rest of them will make the same use of it, I know not. But for this State, they will give their hands to it, and be very glad His Majesty will exercise his Mediation as soon and as far as he pleases. Your Friends are all very well here and in the Army, but Monsieur *Odyke* very impatient to be at *Nimeghen*. For ought I hear, the Prince's intention in sending a Person to the King in return of the last sent hither, is forgotten. I am ever

Your most Faithful
Humble Servant,

Lord Chamberlain.

W. Temple.

Hague, Septem. 10. *N.S.* 1675.

I Am to acknowledge the favour and kindness of one from you of the 18*th.* past, and of the account you therein give me of your self, as well as the reflections you make upon the affairs at present on the Scenes here. To the first I shall say nothing at all, knowing how good a Judge you are of other mens Affairs, and consequently how much better you must needs be of your own; in which all men are to be allowed for the best Masters, till they either con-

seems to have failed of their ends, or not to have found what they expected in them. I hope you find good recruits of Health in the Countrey, since you resolve upon staying so long there, as the accounts I receive of the King's intended motions make me guess; but for the prospect you have there of the general affairs, I do not think you could mend it by any removes, for all will still depend upon the last Events, with which this Campaign shall end; in which I find if the Prince had no wiser Counsellors than you and I, he would be content to preserve his Army and *Flanders*, till he saw the force of the *German* Expeditions spent one way or other. But I hear he is resolved to have a share in the Honour of the Campaign, and will endeavour by a Siege of *Charleroy* to bring the *French* to a Battle, though they are near as strong in number as he is, and much stronger in Horse; to this end he is drawing together the Garrisons of this State, which will make their Foot strong when they joyn him. But when all is done, his Scene is that alone where the late successes of the Confederates can in any probability receive a check this year, and whoever fights a Battle runs a venture. His Grandmother died on *Sunday* last, and has I suppose thereby left a considerable addition to his Fortunes.

The News here to day is of the taking of *Treves*, wherein Monsieur *Crequi*, and all the King's Officers *de viores* remain Prisoners, but the Soldiers both *French* and *Scotch* are sent away free, with Engagements not to serve against the Confederates in three Months, and the *Lorrainers* either to remain Prisoners, or to take Service under the Duke. If this Army should march into *Lorrain* as was intended, after the taking of *Treves*, I know not in

what condition *France* would be to receive them, considering how ill the Prince of *Conde* has yet been able to deal with *Monterey*. But I have an opinion that the Dukes of *Lunenburgh*, who make the greatest strength of it, will march back with their Troops to make good their share in *Bremen*, if the *Swedes* should not be able to defend it, which will depend upon the resolutions of the Duke of *Hanover* that are not yet known. A Commissary of *Sweden* who still remains here, says, That *France* will not longer insist upon the point of Prince *William*, at least no further than that he shall be set at liberty upon conclusion of a Peace. If this be so, I see not how a Congress will fail; if not, I know not how it will be: in the mean time, this State is very earnest to have it begun by the King's sending his Ambassadors thither, which they undertake shall be followed, not only by those of the Confederates, but the *Swedes* too; who seek all ways of drawing their stake as soon and as well as they can out of the present game. This is all I know of, to be told you at present from this place of Solitude and leisure; and for my self I will only say, That the Journey or further remove you mention, and were told I was to make immediately after my return, is a thing I never heard of before, and so know not what your politick Informers meant by it, unless it be the same which I believe they meant by several other things I find they told you of my Actions or Discourses while I was in *England*, and with as little grounds. God be thanked, that among so many pursuits and journeys that I have, by report, been of late engag'd in, I know of none of them, but, find my self a Man of great repose, and without other designs than of going on that dull, easie, indifferent

great Face that is natural to me, by which, as I can make no great Fortune, so I hope, I shall do no great Faults. And shall ever be,

Your most Faithful
Humble Servant,

Lord Chamberlain.

W. Temple.

Hague, Septem. 27. *S. N.* 1675.

Since my last, there has hapned nothing new in these parts worth your trouble, and I begin to think the periods of this Year are ended in point of Arms, what they may be in matter of Treaty is now to be expected. By the Lights I can gather, I am not apt to believe there will be a Battle either in *Flanders* or *Pomerania*, though both are much in talk, nor a Siege of *Philipsburgh*, though the *German* Letters say *Montecuculi* is drawing that way, and I know the Empire is very much bent upon the recovery of that place either by the War or the Peace. But the Armies I hear have very ill Enemies to deal with of another sort, which are the Diseases of an ill Season; and these are like to encrease if this Weather and the Campaign lasts. Besides, the Blood seems to be ill in the Prince's Army between his Troops and the *Spanish*, by several late quarrels among the Officers, in one of which the Governour of *Grave* was kill'd, and in another between the Duke *Montmire* and the *Rhingrave*, the News is here, That the first is very dangerously

wounded throw the Body, and the laſt has his Leg ſo broken that it muſt be cut off, which are both of them Maims among Forces that are ſo ill provided of General Officers. The diſpoſitions here towards a Peace are ſtill what they were, and will yet appear ſtronger whenever a Congreſs begins, which they are extreme earneſt to ſee, and would put His Majeſty upon what I am ſure is not at all fit for him; which is to ſend his Ambaſſadors without aſſurance firſt received from the Parties on both ſides, that theirs ſhall follow: and I do not ſee how this can be, till ſome expedient be found in the point of Prince *William* of *Furſtemburgh*; and whether that may be ſooneſt hoped from the compliance or eaſineſs, either of the Emperour or *France*, you will be there beſt able to judge, and accordingly to adviſe how His Majeſty's Offices may be moſt ſucceſſfully imployed. The Confederates Hopes have been much raiſed, eſpecially the *Spaniards*, by the Actions of theſe late three Months; but I do not yet ſee any great preſent effect they are like to produce. If the Campaign ends here, which I am the apter to expect from the great *contratemps* that has happned in their Affairs, by the Duke of *Lorrain*'s death, without which the Two Armies had endeavoured immediately to enter *Lorrain*: and though the new Duke may have the reputation of more Princely Qualities, yet they are not ſuch as will fall in with the Conduct of ſuch Troops as his Unkle has left him. The Duke of *Hannover* has declared his Neutrality, and is now, they ſay, treating to enter into the Confederacy, and like a true Ally propoſing to have ſhare in the Conqueſt of *Bremen*, and the *Dane* ſeems already as deep in the War, as any of the other parties.

Our

Our friend *du Moulin* having been hindered by Monsieur *Odyke* from going to *Surinam*, and still supported by Count *Waldeck*, was designed to be sent to *Monmouth*'s Army, but I think I have spoil'd his Journey, upon a late command I receiv'd from the King to that purpose. I hear I have had the honour of being treated by him in his discourses among some of his Confidents, fifty times more than ever any body was before me, which shews that you are not alone the Person he thinks worth his commending. There is one *Horne* here, who served you long as he says, in your Office, and I think I remember him there. I have heard he left you ill, though he pretends otherwise, and should be glad to know it, that I may use him accordingly, in any Applications he makes to me. I am ever and most affectionately

Your most Faithful
Humble Servant,
Lord Chamberlain. **W. Temple.**

Hague, Novem. 12. *S.N.* 1675.

I Was very glad to know the certainty of your late return to Town, and to conclude well of the Health you brought out of the Countrey by one I receiv'd from you of the 19th. past, which I would no longer defer the acknowledging, how little soever I have else to bear me out at this time. I never knew less News or Business here, than at this present, and the Campaign being but newly ended,

and the next so far off, they look here as if they did not yet well know which way to turn their next Thoughts, to Peace or to War. Upon the whole, I find the Prince thinks they have reason to expect a better Market now, than they did in the Spring, and that it will mend the longer the Fair lasts. And if this State can furnish Money to go on with the War, he may have reason to lengthen it out another Year, for ought I know, not only from the hopes of better Terms in a Peace, but from the certain effect it has of throwing all parts of this Government so absolutely under his Influence and Direction. But how the Country will be able to bear the Charges, and the Interruption of Trade much longer, I confess I cannot see, and doubt that which keeps up their Heart and their Credit, is what does it after for a while with great Dealers upon ill Fortune and ill management, the keeping of their Accounts, and either not knowing themselves, or not suffering others to know how they stand. The *Spaniards* are afraid of them, and that is all which will bring them at this time into the Negotiations of Peace, and that it self, I doubt, through as many delays as they can raise without giving too much disgust to the popular humour here, which is very sharp upon a Peace, and may grow into distemper if that matter be too grossly handled here. The only thing which holds up their Hearts is, the encouragement of the Successes against the *Swedes*, which they hope may (if they continue a Month or two longer) grow to balance the Acquisitions of *France* in *Flanders*, and thereby bring Matters to such Terms on the *French* side, as will inevitably make the Peace before next Campaign.

Since

Since I writ this the Prince came in, but I have not time to add, and my self just time enough to make this Packet. I told him, I was writing to you, and asked what I should say to you from him, and he bid me to make you his Compliments.

What you say of Harry was a favour to me and a Present, for though I have yet had nothing made with him, yet the satisfaction of having serv'd you in this kind be Presents, which was of Cyphering all the Characters of your Letters, might have made me some Present of other qualities than any he could ever do, after the Character you give him. I pray wish you very heartily in this Session of a happy end to this Session of Parliament, with the general satisfaction of His Majesty and both Houses, and consequently of the whole Kingdom; but what pieces are yet made towards it, I yet know very little of, two Packets being now due to me, and one being reported to have been lost in the late violent storms. I am ever,

Your most Faithful
Humble Servant,

Lord Chamberlain.

W. Temple.

Hague, January 24. *S. N.* 1676.

I Was extreme sorry to find by yours of the 27th. past, so ill an account of your Health of late, which I had heard nothing of before, but what Monsieur *Spanheim* told me at his return hither, of

your being ill of the Gout without more Circumstances. But such an attack as you speak of deserves more than ordinary of your own Philosophy, and of your Friends concernment, among whom I am sure my share does not fail you. I hope your Health will change with the Season, and that the Spring will cure what it seems came upon you with the last Fall, and has continued so long. I suppose you had not seen Monsieur *Van Heemskerk* very lately before you writ, or else you would have known more than you did of the Effects my Discourses had with the Pensioner upon the Subject of the Packet Boats. For though he does not use to fail in what he promises and sets down for the help of his Memory, (both which he did upon this occasion) yet I complain'd to the Prince, after having receiv'd your last, that nothing had been written upon it to Monsieur *V. B.* tho' the Pensioner had promis'd that should be done; the Prince reply'd, that he was sure it had been done, for he had seen Letters that Post from Monsieur *V. B.* which acknowledged those he had receiv'd upon that Subject. So that till I hear you find them short of what they were intended for, I know nothing more to be done on this side, towards your satisfaction in that small affair. I very well understand the Byas you are pleas'd to give to what I said, of your being like to be informed of all that passes here when Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* arrives, by the thanks you give me for that assurance. Though you might, I think, have very lawfully turn'd it another way, upon the notice I gave you at the same time of my leaving this place upon my Journey designed to *Nimeguen*; yet since you rather chose to give it this *tour*, I will very easily, and like a very plain Man confess to you, that considering the many

not in which you intended Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* should come over hither, I had no reason to believe you cared not at all for any advices I could give you from hence, or believed they were worth His Majesty's receiving, or at least considering. Which is all I shall say upon that matter, having not the Vein of being pleasant, nor the Disposition of being unpleasant to you upon this or any other occasion.

I humbly thank you for your good wishes to the Negotiation I am like to be ingaged in, and in which I had need of something at least like that to please me, considering the Circumstances of Trouble and Expence, with which I am likely to enter upon it, and without any help in one, from the Exchequer; or in the other from my Lord *Berkley*. For the success of it, I believe you can guess as far, and as well, as any Man else; and so will need none of my Conjectures, which are only that it will, like all other Affairs, depend upon the Accidents that shall fall in, more than the Design or Skill of those that play the Game. I am ever,

Your most Faithful
Humble Servant,

Lord Chamberlain.

W. Temple.

Hague, Febr. 11. *S. N.* 1676.

I Was extreme glad to find by one from you, which Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* gave me at his arrival here, that you had so good hopes of wearing off

that

[illegible] satisfaction in which your Spirits had left you, and that you had already begun to use your Fingers; which I doubt not will restore themselves by exercise, and with the help of the cordial, and thereby soon restore you the Air and Entertainments you used to be pleased with, and the liberty of attending His Majesty's Affairs as well as your own. [illegible] Sir *William Fan Haverings* [illegible] so much as for a help of it to introduce [illegible] he does not think [illegible] more concerned than [illegible] of new should comfort [illegible] of it here, but whenever you [illegible] and find any stop from [illegible] to give you the Satisfaction intended, I shall not fail to move it again to the Pensioner, and if need be, to the Prince, upon the least notice you please to give me of it.

We will, if you please, leave off any further mention of what past in our former Letters upon occasion of Sir *Gabriel Sylvius* his Journey hither; I do believe what you tell me, there is no Mystery in it, and yet whenever we meet, I will tell you very frankly what I believed was once in design, which must have been very injurious to me, though perhaps not so intended; and will upon it leave you to judge your self, whether I was imposed upon by those from whom I received the knowledge of it. For of my many Weaknesses, that of being Credulous is none, especially, where it is so unpleasant to me, as to make me suspect the good Intentions of those few whose Friendship I esteem, and would be glad to deserve. For the rest, what you are pleased to say of the Intentions he brings over,

ever, as to my own particular, they are of small Honour to me than I am all pretend to: Who shall ever live with Persons that bear His Majesty's Character, as my Fellow Servants, whatever difference may be made for a time by those we receive from our Master, according as he pleases to use us, in order to his better Service. I wish him with all my heart the Honour of either finding or raising any Dispositions here, more agreeable to His Majesty's desires in what concerns the Peace, than those I have yet been able to give account of; but I think it more for His Majesty's Service to give him a true one than a like one, than a feigned or dignified one that he likes; which is the way to engage him in Measures that will fail, and sometimes in retreats of little Honour. Upon this Subject, I cannot but wish Monsieur *Van Beuningen* had either understood His Master's better, or been left to stand himself upon the Justness of Prince *William*'s Interest before Mr. Sidney came away, and that for this time to come some difference were made between his Talk and his Ministerial, from the latter, I believe he will be more cautious than for the other.

The Prince is out of Town, and will continue so till *Saturday*. The Congress is accredited by the Resolutions made here from the Confederates to the Ports for *Spain* and *Liverne*, which you know the Detail of these, as well as I, and perhaps by this time better, in knowing the Answer of the French Court to His Majesty's last Application. What I write now to Mr. Secretary *Williamson*, you will have your part in, either in his Letter, or the Foreign Committee, and beyond these we have here nothing fit at present, but the common reports of Monsieur *de Ruyter*'s Victory over the

French

Secret Affairs, which I yet see no certain ground for, (though in some appearance) from the Letters that are yet come hither. I am ever, &c.

Your most Faithful Humble Servant,

W. Temple.

Hague, April 7. S. N. 1676.

My Lord,

THE Pensioner told me this morning, I should be possessed of the States Answer to my Memorial, concerning His Majesty's Expedient, time enough to send it away by this Ordinary. He added, further, That this Answer was made by a formal Resolution of the States General themselves, and not by the Commissioners of the Secret Affairs. I hear it was resolved by these last at their Conference upon it, That though all the Rest of the Allies should consent to it, yet by their Treaties, the States could not do it, if Lorraine refused it. The Marquis de Grana received Letters from that Court before he left this Place, and Monsieur Pompone, with Orders as this day positively to refuse it. It was very sure to have given His Majesty so true Measure of this Matter from the very beginning, and should have been glad to find myself discredited by His Majesty's meeting with such a return, upon which I was perswaded to expect by

men,

men, that ought to have known more of their Masters mind than it seems they did. But since you were pleased to tell me, His Majesty's Honour was not at all concern'd in these kind of refusals, I have all the reason that can be to be satisfied; before that, I will confess I was of opinion that it was not so, in any Proposals, that His Majesty only handed from one Party to another, but I was very solicitous to see nothing refused, that came from His Majesty himself, and as his own.

Upon my positive refusal to deliver the *Swedish* Passports, or those of the States for *Sweden* without His Majesty's Orders, they have not thought fit it seems either to attend that delay, or to lose the Measures altogether, which they had taken in that matter, and therefore have dispatch'd their Ship to *Gottenburg* with new Passports from the States, and Orders to exchange them for new Passports from that Crown.

Count *Montecuculi* has excus'd himself from serving this Campaign; and Monsieur *Semischamps* tells me, that Orders are already come to the Duke of *Lorrain* to Command the Imperial Army.

The Prince says, he will go to morrow night to *Bergen-op-Zoom*, and so to the Rendesvouz; whether he will make a step hither again, before they march from thence, is uncertain. I am ever,

SIR, Yours, &c.

W. Temple.

Hague,

Hague, Septem. 27. & 28. 1676.

SIR,

SInce my last of the 23d. the States of *Holland* concluded the Affair I there mentioned about *Maestricht*, leaving the disposal and settlement of all Matters there, both Civil and Military to the Prince; this was carried by all the rest of the Voices, both Nobles and Towns in this Province against that of *Amsterdam*, though Mr. *Valkenier* told me they had not absolutely dissented from the rest, and that all the difference between them proceeded only from want of having had due Information given them in time of what had formerly past in such cases, and what the Prince now desired in this. After the Resolution past on *Saturday* upon this Affair, the States of *Holland* separated till the first of *November*.

On *Sunday* I spoke with both the Prince and the Pensioner, concerning the Business of the Guarranty, and particularly for the securing of *Flanders*, in which, I found the Prince and the Pensioner absolutely of the same opinion. *First*, As to the necessity of such a Treaty of Guarranty between His Majesty and this State, they declar'd their own opinions to me, That nothing else could preserve *Flanders* in the condition the Peace would leave it. *Secondly*, As to the manner of it, That it ought to be not only a general one in pursuit of the 5th. Art. of our last Treaty, but likewise special with the particular mention of the number of the Forces which each party should furnish. *Thirdly*, As to the number, they agreed in the opinion that this State might

might oblige themſelves to have 14000 always in readineſs in the Garriſons that are Frontiers to *Flanders*; ſo as to be drawn out into the Field in a very few days upon occaſion; provided His Majeſty would likewiſe oblige himſelf to the ſame number. And the Prince ſaid nothing could ſecure *Flanders* ſo much than if His Majeſty in time of Peace, ſhould maintain at leaſt a good part of his proportion in *Flanders*, ſince upon any ſudden occaſion, ſo much time might be loſt in Shipping and Tranſporting them.

They further agreed, it would be neceſſary whenever this Treaty was made, to invite other Princes, eſpecially of the Empire, into it, but that this could not be done till they were out of the War. This was both their Sentiments upon this Affair, but they ſaid they could not anſwer what thoſe of the States would be. That they believed moſt of the Towns would be of this mind, but in regard it was an affair that could not paſs without Unanimity, they concluded that it muſt by no means be propoſed till the opinion of the Town of *Amſterdam* upon it were firſt known, becauſe it would be of extreme ill Conſequence (being the firſt Affair between His Majeſty and the States, ſince the Peace concluded) if any difficulty or demur ſhould be made upon it after it was once propos'd.

This Morning I had ſome diſcourſe with Monſieur *de Syra*. He fell into complaints of the *French* beginning to ſlight the Out-works of *Charleroy*, and to cut down a great deal of Wood in *Flanders*, ſince the beginning of the Peace; and then into the ſtory of how ill a condition *Flanders* would be left in by this Peace, which he ſaid could only be preſerved by the Guarranty of us and *Holland*. That

what

what was left was hardly worth the Expence and Trouble of keeping for their own Interests in it, and that in case His Majesty and the States will not fall into such a Guarranty, as the *Spaniards* see is likely to defend them, they cannot engage themselves to do it, and shall grow weary of it. This he desired me to write into *England*, and said he would already have moved the States upon this Point, but that he thought it best to let the late heats between *Amstendam* and the other Towns first cool a little. At Five this Evening Monsieur *Van* ——— and Mr. *Marignault* came to me from the States, upon a formal Deputation, to give me notice in form of the Publication that is to be made here to Morrow of the Peace, and to make the Compliments of this State to His Majesty upon it, which they did at large, telling me at the same time, they had sent Orders to Monsieur *Boreel* at *Ninegben*, to demand a particular Audience from His Majesty upon this occasion. I am ever

Yours,

W. Temple.

Hague, January 1. *N.S.* 1677.

May it please your Majesty,

HAving received last Week a Letter from the Prince, by which he desired to speak with me here, as soon as the Business at *Nimeghen* would suffer me to make this Journey, and finding a full stop,

ſtop, as I concluded, in the Affairs there, till the arrival of Count *Kinſki*. I came hither laſt Night, and this Morning attended his Highneſs; we fell into much diſcourſe about the Buſineſs of the Peace, the ſlow progreſs of the Congreſs, and the coldneſs of the Parties which occaſion'd it. The affected delays of the *Imperial* and *Spaniſh* Miniſters, and the Intereſts of thoſe Princes, who had already gained ſo great advantages againſt *Sweden*, and expected yet more the next Campania. Upon all which, we concluded, how little was to be expected from the formal Paces of the Treaty, towards any ſudden iſſue. The Prince asked me whether I heard any more of your Majeſty's mind ſince I was laſt with him at *Soeſdyke*, and I told his Highneſs, what I remember'd of your Majeſty's laſt Letter upon that occaſion, which was, that you concluded from his Diſcourſes to me there, that he had yet no mind to the Peace; That your Majeſty was very ſorry for it, becauſe the chief reaſon that made you deſire it, was the belief that his Highneſs would find his Intereſts in it. That your Majeſty had endeavoured to know the mind of *France*, and would do ſo ſtill; but if they would not open themſelves further of one ſide, nor his Highneſs on the other; that your Majeſty would content your ſelf with performing the part of a Mediator in the Forms of the Congreſs.

The Prince thought this was ſomething cold, and did not look as if your Majeſty deſired the Peace, ſo much as you had always profeſſed to do, ſince your Majeſty was only able to make it, but knew very well what it would come to by the common Forms of the Congreſs. He ſaid, as to his own having no mind to it, your Majeſty had no reaſon to believe

it, from any thing he had ſaid to me, and that he would tell me now in plain Terms all he could ſay upon that Subject, which I might let your Majeſty know, by this Ordinary, as I promiſed to do.

In the firſt place, his Highneſs deſired me to believe that he had very truly a mind to the Peace, and that he had a great deal of reaſon for it, both becauſe your Majeſty deſired it, and thought it his Intereſt, and becauſe the States not only thought it theirs, but that it was abſolutely neceſſary for them. That he had been unwilling to ſay this, becauſe if *France* ſhould know it, he doubted they would grow ſo much the harder in the Buſineſs. That at the end of the laſt *Campania*, he found *Spain* a good deal inclin'd to the Peace, and was in hopes they might have fallen into ſome Meaſures towards it; but that he found them now quite contrary, and that the new Miniſter there was againſt it: That the Emperour likewiſe ſhewed leſs diſpoſition to it than he had done ſome Months ago, ſo that in ſhort, there was not one of the Allies, beſides this State, that had a mind to it. That for himſelf, as he ſhould always be in the ſame diſpoſition with the States, ſo he very much deſired it but knew not the way how to go about it, at leaſt not ſo as to compaſs it before the *Campania*; for if that once began, they were all at Sea again, and muſt go juſt as the Winds ſhould drive them. But if your Majeſty had a mind to make it, and would let him know the way he was to go about it, or the Conditions upon which you either deſired or believed it might be made; his Highneſs was ready to fall into the Concert of it with your Majeſty, and that with all the Freedom or Heartineſs that could be; and the ſooner he knew your Majeſty's mind in it, he thought

would

would be the better, for the Season was so advanc'd that no time could be lost without Consequence; and tho' he should neglect nothing upon this Prospect that might be necessary towards carrying on the War; yet he should be glad to know as soon as he could, what Measures were like to be taken that he might pursue them without busying his head about any others.

Having attended his Highness again this Evening, but without meeting any thing from him that was necessary to add to this dispatch, I have left my self no further time than to close it, with the True Professions of that Humble and Hearty Devotion, wherewith I am and shall ever be

SIR,

Your Majesty's most Loyal, and most

Obedient Subject and Servant,

W. Temple.

The End of the LETTERS.

AN

ESSAY

Upon the present

State and Settlement

OF

IRELAND.

WRITTEN BY

Sir *William Temple*, Baronet.

WHoever knows the Country, the Story, and present State of *Ireland*, and gives himself leave to consider it without Partiality to his own or his Friends Passions or Interests, must needs confess what is now called the *Settlement* of *Ireland* to have been

from the beginning to the end a meer Scramble, where he that throws out the Prizes contended for, has indeed the just Praise of great Bounty in parting with his own to please a Crowd, among whom there are few he knows or considers; but the Golden Shower falls without any well directed Order or Design, and is gathered up in greatest Measures by the Strongest, or the nearest Hands; while many who need it most, or deserve it best, either fail of any share, or go away with no more than what is very dear bought by the Pains they take, or the Blows they meet with in the Scuffle.

This needs no Application, nor can it bear any dispute, That if His Majesty at his Return had drawn a Scheme of the *Irish Settlement* from Reflections upon the past miscarriages and misfortunes upon reason of present Title and Merit, and Provision of Future Events, he would have esteemed the State in which he found that Kingdom among the best Circumstances of his Happy Restauration, and might have seen it so constituted as to become a Strong and Healthful part of his great Dominions; and such as might, upon occasion have supplied Blood and Spirits, that is, Money and Bodies of Men, to the rest: But having laid that whole Business upon one

of

of his Ministers, who, consulting sometimes perhaps with his Advantages, and often with his Ease, received Informations and Proposals from such Persons of all Parties in that Kingdom as were most presuming and forward to advise him, or most concern'd to abuse him, or most artificial to cover their own or their Parties Interests with those of the Crown, or to joyn them with those of the Ministers themselves. By this means, the chief Directors, not driving on with any steddy current, but floating for sometime one way, or t'other, by the change of Winds and Tides, and distracted by different Colours and Lights, as well as equal Proposals of Safety and Advantage given them by the different Parties concern'd, at last they resolv'd to run the Boat a-shear whatever came on't, and leave the Passengers to shift as they could, when they were once at Land.

Besides, not being resolute enough from their own good Consciences, or good Conduct (which ever make the bold and happy Counsels) they durst not shock the Hopes or Pretensions of any of the Parties, but rather offer'd at Expedients, or at least appearances of pleasing all, and in some seeming equal degree, and not only those that had Pretensions in that Kingdom, but even many

in This, who had no other pretence than that of some Merit, the want of Reward, or the particular Grace of His Majesty, or some Persons near him: And following this uncertain course they succeeded as such Counsels must ever do, instead of pleasing all they pleased none, and aiming to leave no Enemies to their *Settlement* of *Ireland*, they left it no Friends.

For whoever fails in one part of his Hopes is not content with succeeding in the other, and therefore the Business of Laws is not the satisfaction of Individuals in general but of the greatest or the soundest and strongest part of a Nation, which makes the dissatisfaction of the rest in some degree, but like that of a few Criminals, whose complaints or despair, or resistance never interrupts the Quiet, or stops the course of Justice in a Government.

Upon these grounds were fram'd the *Declaration*, and upon that the Act of *Settlement*, and upon this the Proceedings of Commissioners, in the course of all which, the Lands given away by particular Grants, or confirmation of indifferent Acquisitions upon the Adventurer and Soldier's Title, and the formal Adjudication of Innocents after so long a course of Time and Accidents, which made Tryals uncertain by the dispersion and

death

death of Witneſſes, have not only maimed the Juſtice due and intended to the Original Adventurer, and the Grace promiſed to the Soldier ſeeled by direct courſe, though by unlawful Powers, but with all the favour propoſed to thoſe of the *Iriſh*, either whoſe innocence was evident, or whoſe Services had made amends for their Guilt; I am ſure all theſe, together with ſo vaſt a proportion to the Forty Nine Officers have utterly deprived His Majeſty of all advantages to the Crown which he ought to have provided both by increaſe of that Revenue which is neceſſary to the ſupply of the Government there, and might have been infinitely uſeful to the ſafety and growth of that Kingdom, by the incouragement of the Plantations and increaſe of Manufactures, not one Acre, I think, of ſo vaſt Forfeitures remaining in His Majeſty's diſpoſal towards any ſuch, or indeed any other Uſes. But on the contrary, The Crown is left poor, the Government exhauſted, the Army half uſeleſs, and all Parties diſcontented with the *Settlement*, which makes an Army neceſſary, and yet impoſſible to be maintained but by Supplies from *England*; and by this means the preſent Evils there, have an ill Conſequence upon the affairs of this Kingdom, and the future ones

(if

(if they happen) avoid of necessity have a greater.

After all this, and much more that may be said to the same purpose, I very much doubt whether, considering the Genius of our Age and Constitution of our Government, it can be advisable to unravel what is already past in this Settlement, I mean by the Acts of Parliament, or proceedings of Commissioners, considering the attention, boldness and heedlessness of Councils that will be necessary to a new and wide digestion of those Matters, and in the mean time any Settlement of Ireland is much better than none, and the next may weary the Undertakers before it be atchiev'd; and by change of Accidents, or of Hands, grow susceptible of Mistakes, Corruptions, and Negligences, as well as this has done. And perhaps 'tis not amiss for a Builder to make his best of an old case, how ill contriv'd soever, rather than pull down all, and build from the Foundation, if either the Ground be unsound, the Materials rough, and of difficult Carriage, or the Workmen he must employ either obstinate, careless or unskilful. However, it being the part of a light and irresolute Understanding to be only ingenious in finding or aggravating Faults without ever proposing Remedies; it may be

expected

expected after so many Lives lost upon the first Subject, to throw away some likewise upon the other.

The point which seems at present to press most upon His Majesty, and to require the speediest Application, is the supply of the Government in Ireland, towards the constant pay of the Armies present maintenance, as well as some satisfaction of their Arrears. The ways to this end must be the increase of the Revenue, and diminution of the Charge. Neither of these I know can be done without some particular hardships, or at least complaints, but it happens in the course of publick as of private Bodies, that small Wounds need only gentle Applications, and if preserv'd from accidents grow well with Oils and Pultisses or common Plasters, but great ones must be lanc'd and searc'd, and stitch'd together with Needles; that is, no great Wound can be cured without making many small ones. The ordinary Revenue of *Ireland* consists of the old Crown Lands, the Excise and Customs, and the Quit-rents reserved out of the new disposed Lands: The First, I doubt, is small and ever wasting by Gifts and Grants. The Second rises and falls according to Tides or Ebbs of Trade, which is very much govern'd by the opinion

conceiv'd

conceiv'd both at Home and Abroad of steadiness and Prudence in the Government, and consequently of lasting safety in the Kingdom; for where any Government is discredited in these points, Strangers will not bring in their Money to lay out or Trade, nor will such as have it at home send it abroad in quest of common Gains when they venture all (in case of a Revolution) for a small encrease; nor will the Poor be industrious or eager to gain or improve what they think themselves uncertain to keep. However the Customs and Excise of *Ireland* may, I hope, be reckoned unlikely to fall under Sixty Thousand Pounds a Year unless all break, and with two or three Years growth of Trade may possibly come to double that Sum; but the Care and Improvement of this Branch must be left to the diligence and success of the Governours there.

For that of the new Quit-rents, I look upon it as the surest and most considerable part of the Revenue, and that Improvements may be best and most justly made upon it. To this purpose one Act of Parliament may be fram'd for recalling all Grants His Majesty may have made of any Quit-rents reserved him by the late Act, making void all that shall ever be granted for the time to come,

and

and (if there be any defect in the late Act upon that point,) for impoſing the ſame Quit-rents payable by Adventurers and Soldiers upon all Lands that ever were ſeized upon as forfeited, except thoſe only of innocent Proteſtants, and this to be paid conſtantly by the reſpective Poſſeſſors into the Exchequer by half years Portions, which I am confident will amount to Seventy Thouſand Pounds a year, according to my preſent Memory of paſt Calculations.

2. Another Act may likewiſe be fram'd for impoſing upon all Grants without exception (made upon what pretence ſoever of Lands or Houſes not veſted by the Act in Adventurer, Soldier, Forty Nine Officers or innocent Perſon) another yearly Quit-rent to the value of one full fourth part of the real value of ſuch Lands, Houſes or Eſtates, as they now are, or may be let without Fines, over and above the firſt mentioned Quit-rent reſerved upon all the new diſpoſed Lands in general, the ſaid Lands to be valued by Commiſſions iſſued out to that purpoſe, and to be iſſued out a-new once in Seven Years time, in caſe the Governour and Council of *Ireland* ſee fit in regard of the preſent lowneſs of Rents, which cannot make a juſt rule of proportion for ſucceeding times.

3. The

3. The same or another Act may very reasonably impose the same Quit-rents consisting of a full fourth part of the true yearly value upon all Houses and Tenements built or to be built within Towns Corporate granted to the Forty Nine Officers or any others.

4. A fourth Act may be framed for raising (instead of Subsidies which are unequal and disorderly raised in that Kingdom, and bear little proportion of effect to the noise they make, amounting but to Fifteen Thousand Pounds a Subsidy) Six Thousand Pounds a Month by a Land Tax for Three Years to come towards the constant maintenance of the Army, and Payment of their Arrears, which is but two parts in three of the least monthly Tax that was ever raised in Cromwell's time, which was Nine Thousand Pounds a Month in the Year 58, and 9. and was not felt by the Kingdom, though then in a great measure unplanted and much unpeopled to what it now is, and for preventing disputes concerning the proportions of the several Counties which use most to perplex the House there, the same may be made in this Six Thousand Pounds a Month which was observed in the last Nine Thousand in Cromwell's time to be afterwards equally apportion'd by Commissioners in the respective Counties.

These

These several Branches of the Land Tax of the first reserved Quit-rents, and Customs and Excise will bring in at least Two Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year, besides what the second Quit-rents from the Grants and Corporate Towns, the antient Crown-rents, the Chimney Money, and other smaller branches of the Revenue might amount to which cannot fall less than——Thousand Pounds more, and may be reckoned upon for three Years to come as the constant Revenue of the Kingdom in case there be resolution enough in the Crown and compliance enough, or rather due consideration in a Parliament, to make way for the passing of such Acts. For the First and Second of the Acts proposed concerning the general Quit-rents, and those upon Grantees; I question not their passing in the Houses by help of the usual influence of the Government upon them, so that they only require firmness in the King against all particular Suits and Complaints, to the end no one case upon what Grace or Merit soever may get in time to break the Rule; for if one strong Sheep break the Fence, a hundred weak ones will easily follow. Besides that nothing will shock the Houses more than particular Exemptions from the rigour of a general Constitution.

The

The first thing the King should desire is to say
Nay to Ordinances sent to be passed into
not one Impertinent.

The Third Act concerning the Corporate Towns will find much opposition from the Forty Nine Officers who are strong in the Houses, but yet may possibly be compassed, and if not, is of less moment than the other Branches.

The last concerning the Monthly Assessment may seem invincible, and will meet with opposition, but yet I question not may be brought about with the King's shewing himself concern'd in it, and the Governments using their strongest application.

For a need, it may be help'd on by a general Act of Pardon or Indempnity, may by remitting the Chimney Money, for the last space of three Years, which will be an exchange of Fourteen or Eighteen Thousand Pound a Year, as I remember for Seventy Two Thousand. Or if the King think fit he may propose the grace of calling to his Privy Council two of the Lords and four of the Commons House to be chosen by His Majesty, out of Four to be named by the Lords and Eight by the Commons to that purpose, on the last day of their Session, who shall be of the Council till the next Session of

[illegible] Merit

Merit how Liberally soever. But giving, because they are much importun'd, and not because they are well serv'd; and giving things they never saw, and know not the value of, is the ruin of Princes Treasures, and consequently of their Affairs. Besides that, Men are not oblig'd by the greatest Gifts which are gained by Friends or soliciting, but attribute them to their own diligence or addresses, to the Mediation imployed or at best to the Prince's estimate. Whereas the smallest Reward arising from notice taken of Merit and Service leaves a lasting impression in any generous Soul.

But the great Parsimony must be made out by reducing the Army to the number both of Officers and Soldiers, which are but necessary to the support of the Government, and by balancing their reduction by such a certain establishment of Pay and Discipline, as may make a smaller number of Men of more life and strength than a much greater as they now stand.

I suppose Three Thousand Foot consisting of Thirty Companies, and One Thousand Horse consisting of Twenty Troops may be a number proportion'd to the necessity of the Government there. Their Pay Eighteen Pence a Horseman, and Eight Pence a Foot-

man,

man, may be eaſily caſt up; out of which one Penny may be abated to Cloath all the Foot with Red Coats, and all the Horſe with Grey or elſe Shammy, that they may appear, as well as be, Men in conſtant Service, and not of common uſe. Theſe Troops with their Officers muſt be divided into the ſeveral moſt convenient Quarters and Garriſons, and changed once every half year, and perform conſtant duty as if they were in the Field, or elſe work at Fortifications, or other publick works the King ſhall appoint; beſides muſt be train'd every Week, and muſter'd and paid every Month. No Captain ever ſuffer'd, ſo much as for the half year, to quarter his Men upon any of his own Lands, and to loſe his Command whenever he can be found guilty of a falſe Muſter, and every Soldier a months Pay that is found defective in his Arms. By this means four Thouſand Men may be of more ſtrength to the Kingdom than twenty Thouſand when Troops and Companies are made only for thoſe that Command them, when the number of Soldiers is leſſened to increaſe that of Officers, and when every Captain has the liberty to quarter his own Men upon is own Lands, and ſo the greateſt part of the Army is but a number of Lords and Gentlemen living in the

middle of their Terms, who have only the Names and perhaps Salary of Auditors for Mother Dayes; but for the rest of their time are Hedge, or Plough-men, or other Labourers upon their Captains Lands, or at most Grooms, and other Menial Servants in the Houſe.

The ſeem to be the [illegible] the preſent diſeaſe of that Kingdom; for all habit of Body muſt be cured by Diet rather than Medicine, and that is the prudent enacting and ſevere conſtant execution of Laws.

For the point of calling a Parliament ſuddenly, I can only ſay, That in my opinion the time will be then when all Acts are ready that are intended to be paſt that Seſſion, ſo as not above a month or two at moſt may be calculated for the time of their Sitting: For beſides other Inconveniences of long Seſſions there (againſt which Poyning's Law was a good proviſion) the number of Lords and Commons is ſo great a part of thoſe in *Ireland* who have any Eſtates conſiderable, that their own Protections, and ſuch as are derived from them, make in a manner a perfect obſtruction in the whole courſe of Juſtice throughout the Kingdom.

Among Acts to be paſſed next Seſſion, I ſuppoſe one of confirming all Eſtates ſetled by the Commiſſioners in purſuance of the former

Religion

Religion and Interest are different, and consequently the Parties and Interests contrary to one another; for to think of governing that Kingdom by a sweet and gentle obliging temper, is to think of putting four wild Horses into a Coach and driving them without Whip or Reins. A Physician whom much Learning, Care and Success had made bold in his Practice and daring at great Cures, would venture upon Two Medicines yet stronger than all these: One for advancing the Plantation and Trade, and the other for securing perpetually the safety and quiet of that Kingdom with much smaller standing Forces than has been proposed. The first is an invitation to Foreigners and to *English* from abroad by some large degree of Liberty in matters of Religion: To all Protestants that are or should be Inhabitants there, reserving some Profits as the purchase of such Liberty, and confining the disposal of charges to the Professors of that already establish'd among them. The other arises from the consideration that the *Scots* are nested together in *Ulster*, the *Irish* in *Connaught*, and some Counties both of *Ulster* and *Leinster*: Which make them upon any sudden insurrections Masters of those parts, and of all scattered *English* in them, but the *English* alone want this strength,

and

and owe their safety to nothing but the Favour and Protection of the Government, being by their own Security of ease their Covetous Dispositions, and ill-friendliness to one another, scattered over all parts of the Kingdom and at the mercy of the rest, by being every where mingled with them in so unequal proportions. For remedy of this an entire *English* Plantation of the Four Counties of *Wicklow*, *Kildare*, *Carlow* and *Wexford* were the greatest work, that a wise and forefeeing Government could undertake, which being either encompass'd with the Sea on one side, or the Rivers of the *Barrow* and the *Boyne* almost meeting on the other side, and back'd by the City of *Dublin* at one end, which ought ever to be kept a chief *English* Town, would by their own Militia's give Law to all the rest of the Kingdom, and safety to the *English* Name, and in a small course of time grow little inferior in Improvement, Riches and Price of Lands to any parts of *England*. This, though seeming difficulty, were perhaps no invincible design, to a resolute Government, and might in few years be compass'd by severe Laws of Plantations with *English*, upon all the new disposed Lands, and others of forbidding any *British* now in *Ireland*, upon change of their

present

FINIS.

[illegible]

[illegible] Convocation, [illegible]

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